

PART 8

BOJORQUES

MARIA TEODOCIA
BOJORQUES

TYPED BY ROGER REHW

1. Birth of Juan Nepomuceno de Jesus, marriage to Victor Prudon, Testimony of Henry Howe, Letter to Thomas O. Larkin, cattle brands
2. Census of 1850, divorce - to p. 7
8. 1846 in Yerba Buena
9. Excerpts from J.N. Bowman on Sonoma
10. Land grants to Victor Prudon, H.H. Bancroft on Prudon - 13
13. Elizabeth R. Rhoads on Prudon
14. Cont. Don Pedro Badillo met Victor Prudon both in Sonoma and L.A. Cont. Surrender to Bear Flaggers, prisoners at Sutter's Fort
15. Victor Prudon's letter to Mr. Taylor and M. Deflot de Mofras, Cont. Bancroft on Rancho Laguna de Santos Calle. Fight with Leese
16. Article by Charley Prudhomme about his father Victor Prudon, misc data. 1850 at Sonoma
17. Cont. misc. data
18. Prudon's petition for Bodega, Juan Baptista Prudon, unidentified
19. Leon Victor Prudhomme and Maria Merced Tapia and children
20. Other information and probate of Victor Prudon
21. Cont.
22. Rancho Cucamonga, cont. on p. 27
23. More probate, 25, 26, 27 - Juan N. Prudon claims to be the son of Victor Prudon, Rancho Cucamonga
28. Theodosia Bojorques de Carillo testimony in Gates vs. Salmon
- 29, 30. cont.
31. Data from Robert Ryal Miller

Maria Teodocia Bojorques & Julio Maria Carrillo

32. Family group - known children
 33. Ancestry Chart for Julio Maria Carrillo
 34. Notes on Ancestors of Julio Maria Carrillo
 35. Misc. data on Julio Maria Carrillo
 36. Marriage licence and obituary of Julio Maria Carrillo
 - 37-40. Prisoners At Sutter's Fort - Events Leading Up To Their Imprisonment And The Aftermath.
- WRITTEN IS A TILIT FOR LOS CALIFORNIAHOS AYH
23-24, 1994 IN SACRAMENTO

MARIA TEODOCIA BOJORQUES, b. 29 May 1822, San Jose, bap. 30th. " " Misn. Sta. Clara, Cal. Sponsors: Leandro Galindo & Ma. Ygnacia Villavice-
ncio wife of Marcos Altimirano.

pts: Bartolome Francisco Bojorques & wife Ma. Nicolasa Lin-
ares
m. 1. Victor Prudon, 18 Aug. 1840, Misn. Sta. Clara
m. 2. Julio Maria Carrillo, Sep. 1862, St. Vincent de
Paul's, Petaluma
d. Santa Rosa or Petaluma ?

Child:

JUAN NEPOMUCENO de JESUS, b. Oct. 1843, bap. hijo natural #7177, 5 Mar. 1844, Misn.
S.F. de Asis, father not named. Sponsors: Jesus Noe &
Guadalupe Garduno
m.
d.

There were evidently no children by Victor Prudon, the first husband.

VICTOR PRUDON - LEON VICTOR PRUDHOMME, b. 1808, Lyon, France

pts;

m. 2. Maria Merced Tapia

m. 1. Maria Teodocia Bojorques at Misn. Sta.
Clara, Aug. 18, 1840 by Fr. Je. Lorenzo
Quijas. Witnesses: Jacob Lis (Leese)
Antonio Pena and others.

d. 1868 ?

He came to Calif. in 1834 with the Hajar-Padres
colony from Mexico. He became secretary to
Gen. M.G. Vallejo. See: Misc. data

Sonoma Co. brands Feb. 12, 1857

Maria Teodocia Bojorques did not live on her
father's Rancho Laguna de San Antonio but in
Sonoma and occasionally visited the rancho.

M.
Census of 1852 Sonoma County

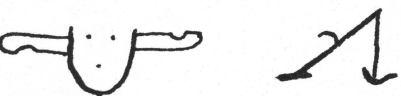
Hauve (?) Garcia 26 mw farmer b. Cal.

Borhorquès, Terceose 24 fw b. Cal

Ceseantone Garcia 5 mw Cal.

Julio Enasse Carrera 1 mw Cal.

Garsiah Domingo 24 mw farming Lower Cal.


Teodocia Bojorques

May 25, 1861, Henry Howe testified in Gates vs. Salmon

"I know Victor Briton or Prudon. He married Theodosia Bojorques, and they lived
together as man and wife. Prudon was formerly a kind of secretary for Vallejo, the
commandant, as I understood. I have seen him write. He was a very good penman. The-
odosia did not write." and "Briton or Prudon was the husband of Theodosia in 1851.
Think he left this state some four or five years ago, and is now in Mexico. It has
been about six years since I saw him." M. G. Lewis, a witness said Teodosia Bojor-
ques did not live on the ranch, Apr. 4, 1861.

Translation of letter from Teodosia Bojorquez de Prudon to Thomas O. Larkin, dated at
Sonoma, Calif., May 23, 1842. The Spanish version appears in The Larkin Papers, edit-
ed by George P. Hammon, Volume 1, pp. 220.221. Translated by Robt. Ryal Miller

Mr. Larkin

Dear Sir:

After greeting you, I go on to entreat you that in the business which we did, I
erred because I did not know what it was worth, above the price that I put on it. Now,
if you will do me the favor of sending me 25 pesos, and if it does not appear to you
to be thus, you (will?) know it, and the 6 pesos that you gave (promised?) me, you
will give to the one whom I have to deliver them.

I went to Don Luis to receive the money which was promised me, and which Don
Luis was to turn over to me, which he did not give it to me. He did not tell me would
give me goods, and that was not the arrangement, only money and nothing else.

I am your very true and very obligated servant,

Teodosia Bojorques de Don Victor Prudon (rubric or sign)

State of California,

COUNTY OF SONOMA:

IN THE DISTRICT COURT, of the 7th Judicial District, --THEODOCIA PRUDON, plaintiff, vs. VICTOR PRUDON, defendant. Action brought in the District Court of the 7th Judicial District, and the complaint filed in the county of Sonoma, in the office of the Clerk of the said District Court.

The People of the State of California, send greeting: To Victor Prudon. You are hereby required to appear in an action brought against you by the above named plaintiff in the District Court of the 7th Judicial District, in and for the County of Sonoma and to answer the complaint filed therein, a copy of which accompanies this summons, within ten days, exclusive of the day of service, after the service on you of this summons--if served within this county; if served out of this county, but within this Judicial District, within twenty days; or if served out of said District, then within forty days--or judgment by default will be taken against you. The said action is brought to obtain a decree and judgment of this court annulling, setting aside, and dissolving the marriage contract existing between you, the defendant, and Theodocia Prudon, plaintiff, and granting said plaintiff a divorce from the bonds of said marriage contract, that said plaintiff may have possession and the full power and control of her separate property, all of which is more fully set forth in the complaint on file herein; and if you fail to appear and answer said complaint as above required, the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

Given under my hand and seal of the District Court of the 7th Judicial District this the 22d day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight.



WM. H. CROWELL, Clerk.
By Wm. H. Bond, deputy clerk.

dec23-3mo.

State of California, County of Sonoma, ss.

E. R. Budd

Personally appeared before me and being duly sworn says he is

Editor

of a Newspaper known as the Sonoma Democrat, published at Santa Rosa, in said County, and that to his certain knowledge the accompanying

Summons

in the matter of The above

Prudon vs Victor Prudon was advertised in said newspaper

for a period of three successive months, immediately prior to the 1st

day of April, 1859

E. R. Budd

Subscribed and sworn to this 19th day of April A.D.

1859.

Wm Churchman

County Judge

Santa Rosa, April 4th 1859.

Julio Carrillo

To The Sonoma Democrat, D.

To advertising, the above attached Summons, 3 1/2 wks at weekly, \$4.00
\$2.00 per sq for first insertion, & \$1.00 subsequently

Received payment

Burdell & Pritchard

Census of 1850 - Sonoma County
P. 24

Sent by Charmaine Burdell Martinelli

Line 8 Dwelling 68 Family 69 Carrillo Julio (age not given) mw 1200 (value of real
" 9 " 68 " 69 Carrillo Duodocio (Teodocia Bojorques) fw estate)
(both b. Calif.)

Note: This shows that at this time they were living together. Victor and Antonio Prudon were numbers 29 and 30 on the same page. They are listed here on p. 16.

Geneological - Prudon

#725 Prudon, Theodocia vs Prudon, Victor

#69 Divorce - cruelty dessionation, control of property

1858 (Rancho de San Antonio (1 undivided 1/9 part,

gift from her father Bartolome Bojorques 6 so leagues

index card

Married 12 Aug 1839 - Mission of Santa Clara

Then portion of the Republic of Mexico)

Lived together until Oct 1. 1846

(1858 Prudon believed to be in Mexico)

Paper scrap Prudon vs Purdon Judgement Roll Filed June 25 1859 (illegible) By Jno.
W. Bailhache

Paper scrap District Court 7th Judicial District Theodocia Prudon vs victor Prudon
Complaint 'In Equity' Filed Dec 22 1858 W.H. Crowell C? By W.H. Burd ?

Paper scrap District Court 7th Judicial District Theodocia Purdon vs Victor Purdon
Affidavit Filed Dec. 22 1858 W. H. Crowell Clerk R.W.H. Ben ? Dep ?

Theodocia Prudon vs Victor Prudon State of California In the District Court 7th Dis
County of Sonoma

Theodocia Prudon vs. Victor Prudon

This cause coming to be heard, and the ? fe what submitted the Court having
had the matter under advisement, and after due consideration it was Ordered adjudged
and d cud, that the marriage between the said complainant Theodocia Prudon, and the
defendant Victor Prudon be dissolved, and the same is hereby dissolved accordingly,
and the said parties an, and each of them is, here ? and unleased from the ob-
ligations thereof, and that the said complainant have full controll and power over
her sepearte property in accordance with the decree herein made.
Whereupon judgement in this the 25th day of June AD 1859, duly ? intend of in favor
of the plaintiff, and against the defendant as above

Entered Santa Rosa June 15 1859

Att ? WH Crowell Clk

By Jno/N Bailhache

1 Theodocia Prudon
vs
Victor Prudon

In the District Court of the Seventh Judicial District
of and for Sonoma County State of California

This case coming on to be heard and it appearing to the Court that summoned herein
has been duly served by publication as required by. And the upon of William Wilkes Esq
to whom this cause had been hereupon referred to take and report the testimony that
might be offered having been made and entered.

And upon reading and filing the said report of the ? , and it appearing from
said report that the Plaintiff is and ? for more than six months previous to the
commencement of this action a resident of this state, and it further appearing that
the plaintiff and defendant were lawfully joined in marriage on or about the 12th day
of April AD 1839 and afterwards lived and cohabited together as husband wife in the
Pueblo of Sonoma now within this state, and that while plaintiff and defendant lived
and cohabited together as aforesaid defendant was at divers times and on divers occ-
asions guilty of extreme cruelty towards plaintiff that at divers times and on divers
occasions he struck, beat and otherwise maltreated plaintiff and that it is unsafe
and improper for defendant to live and cohabit with him Now in motion of J. Temple
attorney for Complainant it is adjudged and decreed and this Court by virtue of the
powers and authority therein vested, and in pursuance of the statute in such cases
made and provided, doth adjudge and decree that the marriage between the said compl-
ainant Theodocia Prudon and the saiddefendant Victor Prudon be dissolved and the same
is hereby dissolved accordingly. And the said parties are, and each of them is, here-
by freed and released from the obligations thereof

And it appearing from the complaint that the plaintiff is the owner of certain pr-
operty consisting of real estate and the proceeds thereof, being a donation from com-
plainant's father and that said property is the sepearte estate of complainant,
It is ordered and adjudged by the court, that said complainant have full power and con-
trol over said property and said property is decreed to the sepearte property and est-

1
State of California
Theodocia Prudon
vs
Victor Prudon

In the District Court of the Seventh Judicial District in and for Sonoma County

The complaint of Theodocia Prudon the above named plaintiff respectfully shows ? this court that the Plaintiff now is and for a period of more than six months immediately previous to the commencement of this action has been a resident of this county and State, that the said Defendant formerly a resident of this State is now as plaintiff is informed and believed a resident of the ~~State of Sonoma in the~~ Republic of Mexico.

The complaint of the above named Plaintiff further shows unto this Court that one or about the 12th day of August A.D. 1839 plaintiff was lawfully married to Defendant at the Mission of Santa Clara now in this state, being then a portion of the Republic of Mexico.

That from and after the intermarriage of plaintiff and defendant as his wife at the city of Sonoma now in this county until in or about the first day of October A.D. 1846 and that during all the time she conducted herself wity propriety and at all times treated her said husband with kindness and forbearance.

And the plaintiff further shows that at divers times and on divers occasions while she lived with defendant as aforesaid, defendant was guilty of extreme cruelty towards her, that he beat, struck and otherwise maltreated plaintiff on divers occasions and was guilty of such cruel and inhuman treatment of her as en ? it unsafe and improper for her to live and cohabit with him. ~~as her husband.~~

And the plaintiff further shows that the defendant is a man of violent passions and that while living with him she was in constant danger of receiving serious bodily injury from him. And that on or about the first day of October A.D. 1846 the defendant with violence and threats drove and expelled plaintiff from his residence in the City of Sonoma. That since her expulsion from the residence of defendant as aforesaid the plaintiff and defendant have not lived or cohabited together as husband and wife.

That by the expulsion of plaintiff from his residence as aforesaid defendant was guilty of ~~the~~ desertion of plaintiff as aforesaid he has continued and still does continue to live separte and apart from plaintiff and has never in anyway supported or offered to support plaintiff or to provide for her as his wife.

And the plaintiff further shows that there is no common property belonging to the parties, that she the said plaintiff is entitled to one individual one ninth part of the Rancho Laguna De San Antonio as her separte property being a gift from her father Bartholomew Bojorques: Said tract of land consisting of six square leagues, being situate partly in the County of Sonoma and partly in the County of Marin. 3

Wherefore plaintiff demands a decree and judgement of this Court annulling and setting aside the said marriage contract and that the marriage existing between her and the said Victor Prudon may be dissolved according to the Statute in such case made and provided, and a decree of divorce may be entered in her favor against said defendant, from the bonds of matrimony heretofore existing between them That she may have possession and the full power and controll over her said separte property: and for such other and further relief as may be just and equitable

J. Temple
Atty for Plff.

State of California
County of Sonoma

Theodocia Prudon

being first duly sworn deposes and says that she is the plaintiff in the foregoing suit, that she has heard the foregoing complaint read and knows the contents thereof, that the same is true of her own knowledge except as to those matters therein stated ? in information and belief and that as to these ? she believes it to be true

Suscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of
A.D. December A.D. 1858

Tiodosia Prudon

Unnumbered Paper
State of California

Theodocia Prudon
vs
Victor Prudon

In the District Court of the Seventh Judicial
District in and for Sonoma County

Theodocia Prudon the above named plaintiff being first duly sworn deposes and says that she has commenced a suit against the above named defendant to obtain a divorce from the bonds of matrimony heretofore existing between them, That this suit is brought to annul the marriage existing between the parties on the ground of extreme cruelty on the part of the defendant towards plaintiff and for his wilfull desertion of her for a period of two years. That she is advised and believes that she has a good cause of complaint against said defendant as in her complaint is more particularly set forth to which reference is made.

That she caused injuries to be made in regard to the residence of the defendant and is informed and believes that he resides without this state to wit, in the Republic of Mexico, but she does not know the place of his residence in said Republic. That she believes it is necessary to obtain and further says not
Sworn to & subscribed before me this 20 day of Dec A.D. 1858

W.H. Crowell clerk

Z ? M.H. Burd ? dep clerk

Tiodosia Prudon

On the reading of the foregoing Affidavit & Complaint herein filed and it appearing there from that a good cause of Action exists said Action and it further appearing that the said Victor Prudon has departed from the State of California and that his place of residence is unknown to affiant that personal service cannot be had.

It is ordered by me that the service of the summons herein be made by the publication of said summons once each week for three months in a newspaper published in Sonoma County called the "Sonoma County Democrat" that being the one most likely to give notice to the said Victor Prudon

December 22nd 1858

W W ? Churdhman County Judge

1

Theodocia Prudon
vs
Victor Prudon

District Court 7th Judicial District
Sonoma County California

Depositions of witnesses sworn and examined the twenty second day of June in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty nine, at Santa Rosa, Sonoma County, California under and by virtue of an order issued out of the district court of the 7th judicial district for said county, in the aforesaid course, between said plaintiff and defendant as follows:

Angela Howe, a resident of Sonoma County, being duly and publicly sworn and A.W. Thompson being duly sworn to interpret truly from Spanish to English and from English to Spanish ~~same-witness~~ answers as follows to the following interrogatories

First-Question A W Thompson a resident of Sonoma County being duly sworn, answers as follows to the following interrogations

1st Question Are you conversant with the Spanish and English languages

Ans. I am sufficiently conversant with said languages to translate correctly from Spanish to English and from English to Spanish

A W Thompson was then duly sworn as interpreter

2

Angelica Howe a resident of Sonoma County being through the interpreter A W Thompson duly and publicly sworn answers as follows to the following interrogations

Ques 1 Are you acquainted with the parties in this suit, and how long have you known them

Ans I know them and have known them for a long time, for about fifteen years

Ques 2d Do you know whether they were married, and if so when

Ans - They were married to each other about twenty years ago, but don't know exactly the time-

Ques. 3 Were you present when they were married and witness the ceremony & if so by⁶ whom, and when they were married

Ans- I was present when they were married they were married in by the priest

Ques. 4 Did the parties live and cohabit

Ans - They lived together as man and wife at Sonoma city California and for the space of about fifteen years

Quest 5. Were you intimate ? with them while they were living at Sonoma

Ans - I was - I lived there with them for sometime

Quest 6 During all the time they were living together at Sonoma did the plaintiff conduct herself with propriety as a wife.

Ans - She did

Quest 7 How did her husband treat her during that time

Ans Badly

Quest 8th In what respect

Ans He whipped her and told her to leave the house

Quest 9 - How often did he beat her

4

Ans- I saw him strike her in the face ~~three-time-~~ at three different times

Quest 10th Did he beat her severely

Ans He did - he pulled her hair out and gave her black eyes

Quest 11 What reason did he give for beating her

Ans - First without any reason, and next because, there was another woman came to the house, ~~who~~ that he did not wish to have come to the house, She was a woman from Contra Costa, a relative of Plaintiffs

Questn 12 Was she you living there when ~~Theedeeie~~ Plaintiff was driven off by defendant

Ans I was sir

Quesn 13 What reason did defendant give for driving Plaintiff away

Ans None

Questn- 14 What means did defendant use to drive the Plaintiff away

5

Ans- He ordered her to go away and also beat plaintiff's niece who was there and obliging her also to go away

Questn 15th Did Plaintiff go away when he ordered her to go

Ans- She went away ~~one time~~ to the Alcalde and Defendant promised the Alcalde and Defendant that he would not beat her any more and then she went back and lived with the defendant again.

Ques 16 How long did she live with the defendant after she went back

Ans She lived with him about three years

Ques. 17th How did he treat her after she went back

Ans - He beat her all the time, the same as he did before not with standing his promises not to do so

Questn 18th Why did she leave him the second time

Ans - I don't know I went to San Francisco, and when I came back I found the Plaintiff living ? with her mother-This was in the year of the revolution, and they have not lived to-gether since

Quest 19 Are there any children being the issue of the marriage of the Plaintiff & Defendant

Ans There are none

Quest 20th Do you know where Victor Prudon, the defendant is living

Ans- In Mexico?

6

Quest 21 Has the Defendant made any provision for the Support of the Plaintiff since they seperated-

Ans No sir never

Questn 22 - Where does the Plaintiff now reside

Ans The Plaintiff lives the witness here ? at Santa Rosa

Questn What relation ship exist if any between you and the Plaintiff

Ans We are sisters

7

Quest 23d What is your age and where do you live

Ans I am twenty nine years old and live in Sonoma County
her

Witness A.W. Thompson

I hereby swear that the above deposition was taken before me, that the Question and answers therein were carefully read by the interpreter to said witness, and that she assented to the correcting of the same and signed the name there to in my presence

William Wilkes

Refer

Henry Howe, being duly sworn deposes and says that I am a resident of Sonoma County & thirty four years of age

Quest 1st Are you acquainted with the parties in this action

Ans I have been acquainted with them for about twelve years

Quest 2nd - Do you know whether they ever lived together as husband and wife & if so

Ans They have not lived together since I knew them how long

Quest 3d Do you know where the defendant lives

Ans He lives in Mexico

Quest 4th Do you know where the Plaintiff lives

Ans In Sonoma County

Quest 5 How long has she lived in Sonoma County

Ans Ever since I have known her, for the past twelve years. H. Howe

I certify that the above depositions were taken before me, that the witnesses were duly sworn & before going the same - and that the questions and answers were duly read to the witnesses before they Subscribed the same and that they subscribed the same in my presence and acknowledged the same to be correct/ William Wilkes

Refer

To the Honorable, the District Judge of the 7th Judicial district for Sonoma County - The foregoing deposition contain all the evidence taken before me, in the case therein named, all of which is respectfully submitted William Wilkes

Refer

Sonoma County California - District Court 7th Judicial District

Theodocia Prudon Plaintiff vs Victor Prudon Defendant

Evidence taken before Referee Filed June 23d 1859 W H Crowell Clerk No. 725

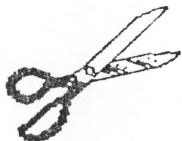
Gates vs. Salmon Sonoma Co. case #979 p. 222 sent by Charmaine Burdell Martinelli

It was admitted by all parties, that Victor Prudon died intestate, in the year 1868 and that J. I. (J.I. (P?) should be Justice of Peace?) H. Harding was appointed by the Probate Court of Suisun County, California, on the 10th day of January, 1867, and is now acting as administrator of the estate.

The Sonoma Searcher Vol. 19 #3
Mar. 1992

From: Charmaine Burdell Martinelli

DIVORCES GRANTED IN SONOMA COUNTY--1852-1863



Abstracted by Lorlei Metke
(Concluded from December 1991 issue)

| <u>PLAINTIFF</u> | <u>DEFENDANT</u> | <u>MARRIED</u> | <u>FOUNDATIONS & DECREE</u> |
|--|------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| PRUDON, Theodocia Def. may be in Mexico | Victor | 12 Oct. 1839 Santa Clara Co., CA, then part of Rep. of Mexico | Desertion June 1859 |

San Francisco Alta - July 22, 1859 1/1

DIVORCES GRANTED IN SANTA ROSA

Divorces have been granted lately in Santa Rosa in the cases of Teodosia Prudon vs Victor Prudon, and A. J. Soule vs. Patience Soule.

Gates vs. Salmon - Aug. 4, 1870, p. 265 Mr. Pearce, Question. Do you know the date of the separation of Victor Prudon from Theodosia? Answer (Julio Carrillo) November 1846/

Census of 1846 in Yerba Buena Note: Boronda should be Bojorques)

Victor Prudon and Teodosia Boronda his wife, Marcella Boronda sister of his wife.

In the census of 1850 Victor Prudon was at Sonoma with a five year old son named Antonio.

Gates vs. Salmon v. 201 - June 26, 1852 - In the division of Rancho Laguna de San Antonio into nine parts Victor and Teodosia Bojorques de Prudon signed as:

his

Victor x Breton

Theodore (a) x Breton

J.N. Bowman gives information about where Victor Prudon, his wife and her sister Marcella lived in Yerba Buena which became the nucleus of downtown San Francisco during the Gold Rush that started in 1848, in The Spanish and Mexican Adobe and other Bldgs.

p. 1212 (22). The Caceres-Prudon Adobe Dwelling Site. 1838.

It stood in Beckett Street about one third of the distance from Pacific to Jackson. Probable error, 25 foot radius.

The site is determined from the Vioget map of 1839, from the property map of the '40s and from the alcalde list of grants. The Waseurtz sketch does not show the house, but is given and labeled Caceres on the View of San Francisco, 1846-47. Bancroft places the Caceres house at the corner of Pacific and Grant and that of Prudon farther in the block approximating the site on the Vioget map and relatively close to the two unlabeled houses in the View of San Francisco, 1846-47. Caceres had been granted this lot on March 30, 1838, and the next year on July 22 he sold the house and lot for \$200 to Victor Prudon his son-in-law; it was not until 1844 that Prudon sold it to Leidesdorff. No evidence has been found that each of these families had a separate house; this would account for the confusion of two families and one house in the recollections of Bancroft's pioneers. In 1839 when Vioget made his survey the house belonged to Prudon. From all these facts it seems that the Vioget map is nearer correct than the Bancroft pioneers and that there was one house rather than two.

There is also some uncertainty as to the building material. Richardson in the Gelston land case testified that the building was of adobe in 1839, while Melus testified that it was a palizada structure, and Fuller recalled it as of about two thirds wood. Bancroft's pioneers seemed certain that it was of adobe. Judge R.F. Peckam in 1877 recalled it as adobe and occupied in 1846 "as a family residence by a native Californian." On The View of San Francisco, 1846-47, it is depicted as a small low house standing parallel with the trail to the Presidio and so at an angle to the present streets.

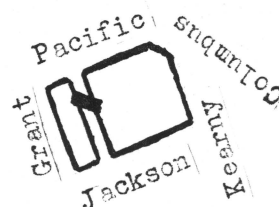
Francisco Caceres was a Spanish ex-sergeant who was in Monterey in 1828-29, and from 1831 onward was in the Bay area; in 1839 he was the pueblo treasurer.

Victor Prudhomme, was a Frenchman who came to California in 1834, was a teacher in the Lancastrian school in Monterey and also connected with the Governor's office; in 1838 to 1840 he was in Yerba Buena and thereafter in Sonoma as secretary to General Vallejo; in 1845 he was of the party attempting to purchase Sutter's holdings for the government, and in 1846 was taken prisoner with Vallejo by the Bear Flag Revolutionists.

The date of construction is estimated from the date of the alcalde grant and of The Vioget map. (23)

Note: Victor Prudon or Prudhomme was not a son in law of Francisco Caceres whose wife was Maria Anna Anastacia Boronda and the name Boronda may have been confused with Bojorques as in the census of 1846 for Yerba Buena. Also, I read somewhere that the first fight between Jacob P. Leese and Victor Prudon was because of Prudon's treatment of Prudon's wife Teodosia Bojorques.

from J.N. Bowman's map



J. N. Bowman did not find the site of Victor Prudon's adobe in Sonoma and it could⁹ be one of the unknown adobe sites that could not be identified with any particular individual. On p. 209 he describes property sold by Prudon.

Sausalito p. 83 - The Kirkpatrick painting of the Richardson adobe shows the house with the left side partly hidden by trees and shrubbery; in the middle and on the right of the picture is the head of the bay just under Mt. Tamalpais; and immediately in front of the house, or between the house, or between the house and the painter, is shown two small ponds. A study of the picture on the ground shows the location of these ponds in the lower part of the block between Pine, Johnson, Bonita and Caledonia Streets; and the terrain in this area is such that ponds may be expected to have existed. The painter no doubt worked from the hillside above Johnson about half way between Bonita and Caledonia. The name of the painter is not given; it may have been painted by Prudon in the early or middle '40's about the time he is supposed to have painted the Sonoma Plaza and the review of the garrison by General Vallejo. (1)

town of Sonoma p 174 - that year he (General Vallejo) built the barracks and other necessary buildings for his garrison and completed them the following year and later; he also laid out the pueblo and granted it sufficient land for the usual pueblo uses. The garrison was a going concern from the beginning but the pueblo lacked inhabitants for a number of years. In 1846 he was made prisoner by the Bear Flag Revolution and held prisoner with his brother Salvador, Peese and Prudon in Sutter's Fort. Late in 1846 after his release he joined Dr. Semple in the founding of the town of Benicia:

51 (60) The Prigmore-Von Geldern Adobe Dwelling Site. Between 1843 and 1847.

p. 209 - This building stood on the east side of the east 1st facing the plaza; the lot on which it stood had a 27 foot frontage, and was about 185 feet from the corner of Spain St.

Of James Prigmore nothing more has been learned than that he and John Sears together bought from Victor Prudon on February 2, 1848 a 50 vara frontage on the Plaza - the south half of lot 35. By the end of 1848 Prigmore had disposed of all his interest in this purchase. The deed of purchase from Prudon mentions no house but a deed three months later, transferring Sears' interest in this lot to Prigmore, speaks of "the ground now covered by the house of said Prigmore in and immediately adjoining the house of blacksmith shop." Other deeds later refer to this house. From this it can be quite definitely inferred that the house was standing when Prudon sold it to the partners in February 1848.

Who the builder was is unknown; it is also unknown whether it was among the "3 or 4 more houses or huts which are tenanted" mentioned by Wilkes in 1841. There is no records of the transfer of the property between that date, 1836, and 1848 when Prudon sold it to Sears and Prigmore. Since it is known that Prudon had a house in 1844, and it was built between 1843 and 1847.

p. 223. Victor Prudon (Prudhomme, a Frenchman, came to California from Mexico with the Híjar colony in 1834; after its failure he spent some time in San Gabriel and in Los Angeles as a teacher. From 1838 onward he had the "direction of the Lancastrian School" in Monterey until 1840 with part of the time resident in Yerba Buena. In 1841 he received a grant of Bodega in Sonoma County, and in 1844 he was granted the Island of Sacramento in Solano County, but both claims failed of a patent. From 1840 to the '50's he was in Sonoma as secretary to General Vallejo as earlier he had been secretary to the governor in Monterey. In 1845 he was a member of the party trying to purchase Sutter's rights for the central government and in 1846 he was taken prisoner with the Vallejos and others by the Bear Flag Revolutionists. For a time he kept a store in Sonoma and visited the mines. In 1858 he was in San Francisco and soon thereafter he left for Central America where he died in 1861.

On March 12, 1846, he received a grant of lot 59 and on the following January 15 he received also lot 60; there is no evidence that he built a house on either lot during his possession. His claim for lot 60 was rejected by the Snyder investigation in September 1847. On February 2, 1848, he deeded to Sears and Prigmore the south half of lot 35, but nothing can be found in the deeds as to when or how he acquired it or whether he lived on it; in July 11, 1836, this part of lot 35 had been granted to Rosario Alvisio but the land transfers between this date and the sale in 1848 are not available. Prudon lived with his family somewhere in the Pueblo for several refer-

PLAZA

51

ences are found to his house in 1846. (66)

p. 242 (47). Sonoma, A2-60. Land case 423 ND, Snyder's reports | In 1842 two weeks after the grant to Carriger, his lot was also granted to Victor Prudon by General Vallejo. Carriger, Autobiography, 11. Bancroft, California, II 743. Munro-Fraser, History of Sonoma County, 673f.

p. 338. C. Sonoma Co. Ranchos

Bodega, in the southwest part of the county, was granted by General Vallejo on July 15, 1841, To Victor Prudon, six square leagues or about 26.632 acres. It was rejected for patent because of no proof of title. The grant covered much of the Bodega granted to Stephen Smith two years later. Nothing has been learned of a house on the land. The Victor Prudon Biographical data are found in Yerba Buena 22. (3)

p. 424zf Solano Co. VII. Other grants

The Island of Sacramento, 193 ND, no doubt present Ryer Island, was a grant to Victor Prudon by Governor Micheltorena on July 6, 1844, a grant of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ leagues or about 15,555 acres. The claim for the land was unable to prove a grant and so failed of a patent. Nothing has been learned of a house on the rancho.

J.N. Bowman mentions Victor Prudon two other times in the section on Yerba Buena. p. 1187. Prudon's testimony that Leese's house was 500 or 600 varas from the beach and that the village was about 1200 varas long from Fuller's house to than of Juana Briones.

p. 1220. On May 1, 1839, Leese and Salvadore Vallejo petitioned Governor Alvarado for two 100 vara lots and "25 varas in the sea", on which to build a wharf and some storehouses for the Russian traders from Fort Ross; the grant was made three weeks later with due restrictions and reservations ensuring that the wharf would be of a public nature. A redwood warehouse about 36 feet long was erected as well as some tents for the Russian traders and their families. During four to five months that fall the wharf was building. Richardson, Prudon and Vicente Miramontes in their testimony have described the operations. The wharf was of stone built on the rocks near the shore; it was about 12 feet square and was connected with the shore by a stone filled-causeway about 18 to 20 feet long. From the landing a roadway was cut around the edge of a hill to the north about 120 to 130 varas long or to the foot of Vallejo Street or perhaps a little beyond. The work was done by about 10 or 12 Indians and some white men belonging to Leese's launches; occasionally they were called away to work the boats and only one or two men remained at the wharf construction.

This was the first wharf in Yerba Buena of a somewhat permanent nature and was used until towards the end of the '40's. The first wharf was built a few years earlier by Richardson, a temporary plank wharf as a tidal landing, at some point off Montgomery presumably between Washington and Sacramento. Late in 1846 William S. Clark on entering Yerba Buena landed at this wharf which he called the "point of rocks" and at which in 1847-48 he built the first pier wharf, 150 feet long, constructed of redwood timber rafted from Marin County. Clark's wharf was the first one at which landing could be made at all stages of the tide. By the end of the '40's, the old name of Punta del embarcadero had been superseded by Clark's Point. (31)

From: Ranchos of Calif. by Robt. G. Cowan, 1956

Bodega. Sonoma Co. from Bodega Bay to the Russian River. 8 leagues granted in 1841 to Victor Prudon, whose claim was rejected. Stephen Smith, grantee in 1844. M.T. Curtis et al (Smith heirs), claimants for 35,488 acres, patented Apr. 18, 1859.

Sacramento, Isla de. Granted in 1844 to Victor Purdon, who was the unsuccessful claimant. (Now Ryer Island.)

Santos Calle, Laguna de, Yolo Co. Victor Purdon and Marcos Vaca were grantees in 1845. The claim of B.L. Brown was rejected. Note: This grant was between Woodland and Davis and the present Willow Slough was the Laguna.

Bancroft's Pioneer Register & Index

Prudhomme (Leon I.), 1835?, Fr. cooper said to have come to Los Ang., V. 413, this year in a records of '46. He married a Tapia, and in '52 was claimant for the Habra and Topanga ranchos. III. 633-4. He died in '71, leaving a family.

Note: Bancroft considers Leon I. Prudhomme and Victor Prudon as two different persons.

Prudon (Victor), 1834, Frenchman who had lived 7 years in Mex. and came to Cal. as a teacher in the colony at the age of 25. III. 263, 412. Remaining at S. Gabriel and Los Ang., in '36 he was president of the vigilantes. III. 418, 432; IV. 116; and in '37-8 was Gov. Alvarado's sec., being also capt. of militia. III. 506, 523, 529. (11 In '39-40 he lived at S.F., keeping some kind of a shop, or drinking and gambling place. V. 684; and in '41, being grantee of Bodega, he was made sec. of Com. Gen. Vallejo. IV. 204, 670. In this capacity he was sent in '42, to Mex. in Vallejo's behalf, returning with the rank of capt. and brevet lieut-col in the regular army. IV. 281-5, 319, 563. From '43 he lived at Sonoma, being in '44-5 the grantee of Sac. Isl., and Laguna rancho, Yolo, being also mentioned in connection with various minor affairs. IV. 358, 396, 408, 445, 561, 571, 673, 678. With Vallejo, he favored the cause of the U.S. in '46, and with him was made a prisoner by the Bears. V. '41, 45, 61, 112-21, 298-9, 667; having a Cal. claim^{bad} of \$7,390 (V. 462). He kept a store at Sonoma in '47-8 in partnership with Haan; and in '48-9 made some money in the mines. I have no later record of him than '53, when he was a witness in the Limantour case. His wife, who was separated from him about '48, was Teodocia Bojorques. Victor Prudon or Prudhomme was the original—was a man of good education, a master of the Spanish and English languages, and an adept in the use of the graceful, flowery language that delights all of Span. race, many of Alvarado's and Vallejo's state papers being for the most part the secretary's work. He was socially an agreeable companion, of attractive personal appearance and fine manners; impulsive and often imprudent, but never involved, so far as I know in anything very ^{bad} or good as character and conduct were concerned.

Prudhomme, (Leon I.) III. 633 Cucamonga, 3 l. Granted in 1839 to Tiburcio Tapia; L. V. Prudhomme claimant.

III. 634 Topanga Malibu. 3 l. granted in 1804 to J.B. Tapia; L.V. Prudhomme cl. V. 413 ? III. 413 Pioneers of 1835:...L.V. Prudon (?)

Prudon, (Victor) III. 263 Among those who came with the colony and have been more or less well known and prominent as citizens may be mentioned...Victor Prudon...(on a list of foreigners.

III. 418 At dawn on Apr. 7th about fifty of the most prominent citizens met at the house of John Temple and organized a 'junta defensora de la seguridad publica' of which Victor Prudon was a chosen president, making an eloquent address, several Californians tell us that Prudon and Araujo were banished, and that the later never returned; but I think that no one received any greater punishment than a brief arrest.

IV. 116 Prudon organized the vigilants and showed his skill with the pen.

III. 506 (Election of deputies) Six members assembled Apr. 10th. However at Santa Barbara, Juan A. Alvarado, Guerra, Buelna, Jimeno, Estrada, and Francisco J. Alvarado as a suplente for Pio Pico, with Victor Prudon as secretary, but had soon returned, being succeeded by Victor Prudon.

III. 529 On July 9th (1837) Alvarado issued a proclamation to the people, a very graceful effusion, albeit not very explicit as an explanation of his late change of front, bearing evident marks of having emanated from the mind as well as pen of the versatile and eloquent Frenchman,

Victor Prudon. 24

V. 684 (Yerba Buena properties)..... somewhere in this Vicinity must have been Prudon's adobe in '39-43, but I cannot locate it, unless it may have been at m, where Davis remembers an adobe shanty, occupied in '45-8 by Escalante and Ramirez; but D evidently confounds this building in some respects with that of Caceres (block 36), whom he calls Valle.

Block 36....on the map of '47, Prudon is named as the owner of the lot, which he obtained, according to Davis, by marrying Caceres daughter.

Note: This must be the source of J.N. Bowman's statement that Prudon married Caceres' daughter.

"Alvarado, [Proclama del] Gobernador Interino del Departamento de la Alta California a sus habitantes, 9 de Julio, 1837, MS. Issued at Sta Bárbara. 'Compatriots! Liberty, peace, and union form the trinal intelligence that should rule our destinies. Our arms gave us the first; a wise congress assures to us the second; and upon ourselves depends the last, without which we have neither liberty nor peace. Let us then preserve inviolate that union, sacred ark which holds the custody of our political redemption. War against the tyrant only! Peace among ourselves! The solidity of an edifice consists in the union of its parts; a single stone torn out from an arch causes the columns to totter, bringing ruin to a structure that would mark the age of time did its component materials remain united. Not otherwise disunion brings ruin to the moral edifice of a society. The territory of Alta California is immense; its coasts are bathed by the Pacific Sea, which, placing us in contact with the nations, develops our industries and commerce, fountains of abundance.' (See newspapers of later years!) 'The benignity of our climate, the fertility of our soil, and—I say it in your behalf—the suavity of your customs and excellence of your character are so many privileges with which the Omnipotent has favored us in the distribution of his gifts. What country can count so many advantages as ours? Let us then strive to give it in history a place as distinguished as that which it occupies on the map. The constitutional laws of 1836 guarantee to us our rights, and even extend them beyond our moderate desires. The august chamber of national representatives is ready to consider a bill to be presented by us for our greater welfare and prosperity; our votes may be cast in favor of the citizen whom we deem worthy to occupy the supreme magistracy of the nation—and what more do you wish? The very laws assure us that we are not again to fall a prey to the despotism and ambition of a tyrant like D. Mariano Chico. The department of Alta California can henceforth be governed only by a native or a citizen. Yes, friends; the enthusiasm and pleasure which you feel on receiving such news is well founded. I share your pleasure, and I close in order that you may no longer have to restrain your joy. Give it free course, and shout with me—Viva la Nacion! Viva la Constitución del año de '36! Viva el Congreso que la sancionó! Viva la Libertad! Viva la Union!"

IV. 204 Possibly Alvarado intended at this time to send a secret agent by the California in Castro's place; or his change of purpose may have resulted from the discovery of Vallejo's purpose to send Victor Prudon, his secretary, as a companion to Castro, which would render his plot, if there plot there were ineffectual. At any rate the General had resolved to send Prudon, and did not modify his resolution at all in consequence of the change in the Governor's plan. 35

35 Prudon's name does not appear in this connection until Dec. 11th, when possibly¹² after receiving Castro's letter of the 8th, but probably not Vallejo in his letter to the Min. of war announces the sending of Castro and Prudon with dispatches.

IV. 670 Bodega, 1841. Victor Prudon, who was cl.

IV. 281-5 Victor Prudon arrived at Monterey Jan. 1. 1842, on his way to Mexico. Prudon called on Alvarado to ask if his dispatches were ready.

At least Prudon took this view of it, and wrote some sensational reports to Vallejo on the subject, warning the General against the intrigues of his foes and pretended friends.

There are indications that this consent may have been given under the belief that Prudon went accredited to Bustamante, and not to the new President—a fact likely to put him at a disadvantage in his diplomatic efforts against the Governor, who addressed his dispatches with a proper amount of flattery to Santa Ana. 4

4 Vallejo's version, Hist. Cal. MS., IV. 259-66, is that the first plan against him was to despatch the California with A.'s agents to Santa Anna before Prudon could be ready; but finally in the belief that V.'s despatches were addressed to Bustamante, and in the fear that Prudon might wait to have them changed and follow quickly in another vessel, it was decided to let him go on the schooner. V. had originally addressed his communication to Bustamante; but on hearing of the change, at once forwarded to Prudon blank sheets of official paper with his signature, and rubric, to be filled out and substituted for the others—an operation rendered easy by the fact that Prudon as his secretary had written the originals. The messenger between Monterey and Sonoma allowed himself to be seduced, and showed his papers to the spies of Castro and Alvarado; but he had been provided with a carta gansa, or decoy letter, intended to be shown, and thus the conspirators were thrown off the scent! Alvarado, his. Cal., MS. IV. 193-203, admits that it was not best to let Prudon reach Mexico before his own commissioner; but says the only way to prevent it was to refuse money from the treasury. This measure became useless, because V. furnished the money required. He does not admit that Prudon outwitted him, and thinks the despatches to bustamante were not changed.

284 Jan. 15th. Prudon to V. All arrangements completed. Vallejo, Doc. MS., XI 27.

285 Their mission was not however, entirely without results, since from President Santa Anna Prudon received a confirmation of his Captain's commission, obtaining also for his chief the promotion of Capt. Vallejo to be lieutenant Colonel of the regular army; while Manuel Castanares was newly appointed administrator of customs and brought for Alvarado a commission as colonel of auxiliary troops—a kind of militia.

I have said that the comisiados arrived too late in Mexico; that is Castanares did so, for Prudon's object had been already accomplished.

(In 1841 Commodore Thomas ap Catsby Jones captured Monterey thinking that war had broken out between the U.S. and Mexico)

IV 319 The American ship Tasso was lying at San Pedro when the news arrived that Monterey had been taken. Jose Antonio Carrillo and Captain Prudon conceived the idea of seizing this vessel, apply to the prefect for authority. Arguello in turn referred the matter to Micheltorena, who disapproved the seizure and ordered the release of the captain, who had been detained, blaming Carrillo and Prudon for interfering in national affairs, which he himself was entirely competent to manage.

IV. 563 Sailed Jan. 20 1842, for Acapulco, with the comisiados Prudon and Castanares and 7 or 8 other passengers (on the California, Mex. schooner, Cooper, master)

IV. 358 At the first meeting after the Gov. had made his opening speech and left the room, Prudon submitted a proposition that the batallon be sent to Sonoma, where they could be fed and put to work. The officer's of the Batallon protested that it would derogatory to their dignity even to consider such a proposition; and the Californians left the hall in disgust. (this was the cholo group of ex-convicts from Mexico who had been sent to Calif. as soldiers. The Californians did not like them and they eventually returned to Mexico with Gov. Micheltorena)

IV. 396 In 1844 he obtained his grant of land, and perhaps by the end of that year both saw-mill and grist mill were in running order. Their completion was celebrated

with festivities, which included speech-making by Vallejo and Prudon, and the eng-13 ine did good service until 1849-50. Not only did Smith introduce the first steam engine, but he also is accredited with having brought three pianos, the first ever heard in California.

IV. 408 V. Prudon, Capt. Permanent infantry; (1844, fear of U.S. Invasion)

IV. 445 Another Sonoma quarrel of this year (1844) was that between Capt. Prudon and Alcalde Leese, in which the two came to blows, and in consequence of which the latter was dismissed from office. Dept. St. pap, ms, V. 114; id; Ben; IV, 49

IV. 561 ? 671 Laguna de los Santos Calle (Yolo) 11 l., 1845 Victor Prudon and Manuel

IV. 673 Sacramento, Island of, 1844, V. Prudon who was cl. Vaca

IV. 678 June 18 (1841), a meeting held to devise means for the support of the garrison, Vallejo presiding and Prudon sec., also to build a town hall, jail, and cemetery. (Sonoma)

V. 41 f.n. 21 Apr. 21 (1845) pronunciamento in favor of Paredes, signed by the following officers...lieut.-col. Victor Prudon... (Paredes as ad interim Pres. of Mexico)

V. 45 ,and for Sonoma, Victor Prudon. Doc. Hist. Cal., ms. III. 229, 238, 47; (elections, delegates)

V. 61 Rafael Gonzalez made a speech in favor of "California, libre, soberana, y independiente"! and was followed by Prudon and Sanchez in behalf of the United States, by Pablo de la Guerra and Juan Alvires for independence, by Hartnell for England, and by Cambuston for France. Finally, Vallejo made his speech in favor of annexation to the United States, and Prudon immediately called for a vote on Vallejo's proposition.

V. 112 Lieutenant-col Prudon and Capt. Salvador Vallejo entered the room a few minutes later attracted by the noise, or possibly were arrested at their houses and brought there; at any rate they were put under arrest like the colonel. (by the Bears)

V. 113 Victor Prudon, signer of guaranties for protection of non combatants.

V. 114 Gen. M.G. Vallejo, lieut-col. Victor Prudon, and Capt. D. Salvador Vallejo, having formed and published to the world no regular plan of government, feel it our duty to say that it is not our intention to take or injure any person who is not found in opposition to the cause, nor will we take or destroy the property of private individuals further than is necessary for our immediate support. Ezekial Merritt, R. Semple, William Fallon, Samuel Kelsey. These important papers are found in Bear Flag papers, ms., 19-20, 60-1. They were given me (H.H. Bancroft) by Gen. Vallejo. There are two signed originals of no. 1, one in the writing of Salvador Vallejo, and the other in that of Victor Prudon.

V. 116 Baldrige, Day of '46, ms., 5, 43-5, who was not one of those who took Sonoma, gives a remark of Prudon, "Boys, you have been a little too fast for us, we were going to serve you in the same way in just 10 days"!

V. 298-9 Vallejo and Carrillo (Julio Maria Carrillo, 2nd. husb. of Maria Teodocia Bojorques, had come to visit the prisoners at Sutter's Fort and was made a prisoner himself) were discharged on or about the 1st of August, the former in very feeble health. The others, Salvador Vallejo, Victor Prudon, and Jacob Leese had to remain in prison a week longer, 299 Aug. 7th, S. Vallejo, Prudon, and Leese to Vallejo, expressing their opinion that Kern did not intend to free them, and asking the colonel to write to Montgomery in their behalf (Capt. Montgomery had become interested in the prisoners, had them released and visited Vallejo in Sonoma)

Note: I have included all this because it shows Prudon's part in the politics of the era.

Foreigners of Southern Calif. During the Mexican Period by Elizabeth R. Rhoades. Thesis U. of Calif. 1924, pub. 1971 by R & E Research Assoc. Sent by Charmaine Burdell Martinelli

Victor Prudon (1810-

Victor Prudon, a Frenchman, came with the Hija colony in 1834, as a teacher in the proposed school at San Gabriel. Upon the secularization of the missions the idea was to establish a school at each one. The plan fell through and Prudon established himself instead at Los Angeles.

In 1836 Prudon was acting as president of the Defenders of the Public Safety. This group consisted of both Mexicans and foreigners who were not satisfied with the slow course of justice through the courts, especially in criminal cases. Their activities in regard to the case of Gervasio Alipaz and Maria del Rosario Villa is rec-

ounted at some length (Botello--Anales del Sur, 176-7) This "infernal pair" had contrived the murder of Maria Villa's husband. While the Ayuntamiento was in session 10 Apr. 7, 1836, the petition signed by Prudon as President of the Defenders and the others was sent in demanding either the execution of the murderers or their delivery to the Defenders. Meanwhile many armed citizens were standing opposite the city hall. It was decided to call in Prudon and make him take away his "armed citizens" so that "this body may deliberate at liberty", but he declined. The Defenders were sure it "go throughout the world that the judges of Los Angeles tolerate murderers." A number of notes passed back and forth between the authorities and the Defenders, with no satisfactory agreement reached. The final one sent in by the Defenders was calculated, perhaps, to make "the world" feel better about "the toleration of murderers", but was not likely to restore cordial feelings between the authorities and the Defenders. It read: The dead bodies of Alipaz and Maria Villa are at your disposal for burial. We also forward you the jail keys, that you may deliver them to whomsoever is on guard. In case you are in need of men to serve as guards, we are all at your disposal. (Signed) Victor Prudon, President.

No wonder that a force was summoned by the authorities, under the command of Juan Leandry to subdue the Defenders of the Public Safety. Botello says that Prudon was banished on account of his part in the affair and did not return any more to Los Angeles, but Bancroft thinks no one recieved any severer punishment than arrest for a short time.

While Vallejo was Commandante of California he sent Prudon to Mexico Commissioned to secure for Vallejo the political power held by Alvarado. He seemed to have very little success on his mission.

During the Bear Flag revolt Prudon was in the north

Note: It is sometimes thought that Leon Victor Prudhomme and Victor Prudon were two different persons but according to Don Pedro Badillo in the Grizzly Bear, Nov. 1918, p. 4, c. 3. "In 1841, says Don Pedro Badillo, I went to Sonoma, where I met General Guadalupe M. Vallejo, Colonel Victor Prudon, Capt. Salvador Vallejo, and many others. In 1846 I returned home (Santa Barbara, and in 1847, for the third time visited the Pueblo de Los Angeles, where I again met Colonel Victor Prudon, father of Charles Prudon (Prudhomme). Since 1852 I have always called Los Angeles my home"

From: Hist. of Sonoma Cal by Honoria Tuomey, 1926, p. 227, Vol. I

"Be it known by these presents, that, having been surprised by a numerous force which took me prisoner, with the chief officers belonging to the garrison of this place that the said force took possession of, having it found it absolutely defenseless myself as well as the undersigned officers pledge our word of honor that, being under the guarantees of prisoners of war, we will not take up arms for or against the said armed forces, from which we have received the present intimation, and a signed writing which guarantees our lives, families, and property, and those of all the residents of this jurisdiction, so long as we make no opposition.

M.G. Vallejo

Victor Prudon

Note: The Dogtown Territorial Quarterly #13, Spring 1993-Special Bear Flag Revolt Issue.

Salvador Vallejo

Vallejo: A Calif. Legend The Bear Flag Incident by Alexander Hunter, a diary by Prudon is mentioned. p. 38. "Extracts from Prudon's diary tell how they were shut up in a large room (at Sutter's Fort) with little furniture and only the floor to sleep on" further down the page "In a letter to Jose de la Rosa, Prudon expresses the fear the prisoners had for their families, when he sends instructions to his wife not to let his daughters out on the street and that it would be better for them all to remain indoors." Prudon and Teodocia Bojorgues were supposed not to have had any children. The looting of Vallejo's cattle, horses and items of value from the Petaluma adobe.

Honoria Tueomey's Sonoma Co. Hist. p. 153, Vol. I, has a painting attributed to Victor Prudon that shows Sonoma Mission. It shows both the earlier chapel on the left and the larger one on the right.

Victor Prudon is in several other books which I will mention.

Yerba Buena, March 15, 1847

Dear Sir:

I have received your note by which I am informed that nothing at home, Mr. Scott had told me at his arrival that new attempts had been made by the instigations of Green and Berreyesa to attack again my house and property. So I was somewhat frightened on account of the diffidence that inspires to me the ill intention of Green and weakness of Nash. All persons of some respectability, learned with surprise and indignation the slanderous act attempted by the two latter to strip me of my house and property, and I have no doubt that I will obtain an order General Kearny to arrest a horrible transgression.

I thank you for your good care and efficacy and pray you to continue them until my return which will be about 3 or 4 weeks.

Do me the favor write to me by every opportunity, and let me know the state of things. I place my property under your care, and my servan under your orders,

I am very sorry for the death of Refugio, I did not believe that they could heal.

Excuse my bad English, present my best respects to Madame Taylor and believe me your truly freind and abject servt. V Prudon

P.S. American store ship Hilano (?) from Sandwhich Island anchored yesterday evening 19 days navegation no news. - We shall leave for Monterey tomorrow on board the Vandalia

Note: The evident cause of this is to be found in The Sonoma Mission San Francisco de Solano de Sonoma by Robert S. Smilie, 1975, p. 85

p. Part of the padres' house that belonged to the Mission San Francisco Solano was granted on June 2, 1846, by General Castro to Victor Prudon, secretary to General Vallejo, although the granted was opposed by the padre and the alcalde. p. 93-4

In the Pueblo of Sonoma, new buildings were going up and the plaza was taking the shape of its planned square. Of the mission buildings, one-half of the padres's house had been granted to Victor Prudon by General Castro in 1846. The padres had objected to the grant and now, with a new government, they brought it up in the local county court January 16, 1847. The plaintiff, the Catholic Church, S. Berreyessa, Agent, against Victor Prudon was a suit of ejectment. Judge Nash agreed to a continuance until the 19th. On that date the motion was argued; the Judge denied the motion, and the hearing opened. The court found for the plaintiff, putting the sheriff in possession of the property, and assessed V. Prudon \$420 damages and \$13.50 court costs. The record shows the costs paid. It was taken for granted that the damages were also paid. This decision was later reversed by Governor Mason.

He quotes M. Deflot de Mofras, a French traveler from his book Travels on the Pacific Coast, translated by Marguerite Eyer Wilber, 1937

p. 76 San Solano is the main residence of an intelligent Frenchman, M. Victor Prudon, who has established a local school and also supervises a small rancho. At one time M. Prudon hoped to locate at Monterey as secretary to the governor, an office he has already filled. (Note: this was before the American conquest.)

p. 82. The plaza also was the scene of a fist fight between now Colonel Victor Prudon, secretary to the General, and Alcalde Jacob Leese. After about 30 minutes, the alcalde planted a blow on Prudon's chin that ended the fight. Later, Prudon offered to renew the argument with pistols but then both decided to make up and forget it. The net result was the dismissal of Jacob Leese as alcalde of the pueblo.

There are other mentions in Smilie's book but do not mention anything not already listed.

H.H. Bancroft, VI. 550 - Specimen Cases

Brown (claimant), Laguna de Santos Calle, Yolo, Land Commission Case No. 70, rejected by l.c. (lands commission) and c.c. (district court) in '60. The grant of eleven leagues by Pico in '45 to Prudon and Vaca was declared a forgery, like other papers; a permission to occupy by Vallejo, '45. invalid and probably antedated, and the oral testimony perjury in part and suspicious throughout. This was a typical spurious claim in behalf of men who never occupied the land.

LEON VICTOR PRUDON [PRUDHOMME]

BEING THE RECORD OF ONE OF CALIFORNIA'S EARLIEST PIONEERS

By Charley Prudhomme



LEON VICTOR PRUDHOMME arrived in California as early as 1835. He was born at the City of Lyons, France, in 1808, and when yet a young man came to America, landing at the then French province of Louisiana. After a short residence there his imagination became fired with thoughts of adventure, and soon, in company with Monsieur Jean Shantet, a fellow-countryman from sunny France, he fared forth and penetrated the unknown wilds to the north of Louisiana in quest of game, in which that region then abounded.

After a journey filled with many hardships, they located, as trappers on the trail of the beaver, away up on the Missouri River, where they met with varying success. Here they were joined, in due time, by a party of American trappers, who also had heard the call of the wild, and, being ardent souls, they sought to persuade the two Frenchmen to join them in a trip to the Pacific Coast,—to what was then called Alta California. After some hesitation, the courageous Frenchmen, being free and having the "world before them where to choose," decided to "tempt the dread unknown."

On to Santa Fe, New Mexico, became their slogan, with far-off California their ultimate destination. It required courageous heart and sturdy frame to accomplish such a journey in those early days. Lurking savages roamed the wilds to be traversed, the rivers were unbridged, meager trails were the only highways, rattlesnakes abounded along the paths, and the vast solitudes of waterless waste were made even more desolate by the incessant cry of the night-wolf and the perpetual howl of the coyote.

One can well imagine that this little band encountered, on the long journey over the Santa Fe Trail through New Mexico and Arizona, then so sparsely settled, many stirring episodes, both of hardship and of delight, and had many hairbreadth escapes. At times, no doubt, they were awed at sight of "the far-off mountains, clad in their mantles of snow, on whose crests the laboring clouds do love to rest," or were enchanted by those wonderful mirages, so common on the desolate wastes, which often exhibit such strange phantasmagoria as no man can imagine who has not himself beheld them.

But men like Prudhomme and his companions are not daunted by hardships nor led astray by phantasies, and so, in due time, they arrived, happy but tired, at the Pueblo de Los Angeles. Then, Los Angeles was but a small town, the few houses being principally fabricated of adobe brick of mother earth color. It was not until 1854 that Regidor (alderman) Don Leonardo Cota influenced the ayuntamiento (council) to order the inhabitants to plaster, and whitewash, the fronts of their houses.

It was in 1835, when just twenty-seven years of age and in the full flower of his manhood, that Pioneer Prudhomme came to Los Angeles. He was arrayed in all the fantastic finery that could gladden the heart of a dashing young man of the period, and his notable buckskin suit, handsomely decorated with beads and tassels, made him a prime favorite at the many gay fandangos in vogue in those early days. Time and again has Don R. L. Bouchett, better known as Don Santos Bouchett, related to the writer his admiration for that famous buckskin suit of Don Victor Prudhomme.

The trappers did not linger long in the pueblo, staying only a sufficient length of time to recover from their long overland trip. On leaving, they traveled to the north, where the party disbanded. For a time, Don Prudhomme settled in Yerba Buena (San Francisco), and later went to Sonoma City, where he married Senorita Tomas Bojorquez, a noted beauty. The marriage was not a happy one, and he obtained a divorce. While living in

the Sonoma section, he became known as Don Victor Prudon, because his correct name, "Prudhomme," had the sound of "Prudon" in Spanish.

Being a young man of attractive personal appearance, well educated, and a master of the English, French, and Spanish languages, naturally he soon obtained entrance into the best society in all that region. In 1838 he was chosen secretary to Governor Juan Bautista Alvarado, and soon after was made a captain of militia and became a personal friend of General G. M. Vallejo, a commanding officer in those days and at the head of the Mexican army in the Sonoma district. In 1841 he was made secretary to General Vallejo, and later on became a lieutenant-colonel.

On June 14, 1846, when the California Republic was created, the Mexican military fort at Sonoma was taken by surprise. Among those secured as prisoners were three of the highest officers in the Mexican army,—General Guadalupe Mariano Vallejo, Colonel Victor Prudon [Prudhomme], and Captain Salvador Vallejo. Others taken prisoners were Jacob P. Leese, an American then acting private secretary to General Vallejo, all the lesser military officers, and a few soldiers. The military

supplies captured included eight field pieces, two hundred stands of arms, a great quantity of grape-shot, and less than one hundred pounds of powder.

General Vallejo requested to be taken into the presence of Colonel John C. Fremont, of the American Army, but the latter declined to receive the prisoners, there being no suitable accommodations, so they were taken to Sutter Fort, at Sacramento. General Manuel Castro, of the Mexican army, who was a conspicuous character, was appreciably affected by the loss of General Vallejo, Colonel Prudon and Captain Vallejo, as well as the arms and ammunition, taken at Sonoma. Tipton Lindsey, a magazine writer, relates: "Captain E. Merritt demanded surrender of General Vallejo and officers, together with the fort, its ammunition, arms, etc. General Vallejo said, 'I surrender because I am without a force to defend the fort. I may be the Frenchman Victor Prudon, whose age is given elsewhere as 25. A teacher. He married Teodocia Bojorquez. List from El Telegrafo, Mexico City, Sep. 14, 1834

1850 Census Sonoma p. 24. ln. 29 Dwelling 74, family 75 Prudon, Victor 41 mw translator real estate (\$) 1000 b. France ln. 30 Prudon, Antonio 5 mw b. Calif. From: Redwood Empire Social Hist. Project. Pub. 1933. Sent by Charmaine Burdell Martinelli.

Soon thereafter Colonel Prudon departed from Sonoma and went to Los Angeles. His presence there becoming known to the American military authorities, they sent for him, and as a result of the interview he was requested to report to Captain P. W. Hensly at San Diego. He received a commission, and was attached to Captain Hensly's company of the California Battalion, commanded by Colonel John C. Fremont. He enlisted on September 23, 1846, for the term of three months, and served during that period. His discharge certificate reads:

"To All Whom It May Concern: Know ye, that Leon V. Prudhomme [Prudon], Sergeant of Captain P. W. Hensly's Company, California Battalion, U. S. Forces, who was enlisted the twenty-third day of September, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, to serve three months, is hereby honorably discharged from the Army of the United States, his term of enlistment having expired.

(Signed) "J. C. FREMONT, Governor of California.

"Los Angeles, March 6, 1847."

On October 12, 1870, Leon Victor Prudhomme received his certificate of American citizenship, acknowledged by T. D. Mott, clerk of Los Angeles County.

Don Victor Prudon [Prudhomme] as he was known among the Latin race, was a cooper and

Although this article has Victor Prudon-Leon Victor Prudhomme coming to Calif. overland The Pacific Historical Review of Aug. 11, 1973 in Notes and Documents by C. Allan Hutchinson, author of Frontier Settlement in Mexican California:

The Hjar-Padres Colony and its Origins 1789-1835. 1969.

Two ships brought the colonists to Calif. The naval corvette Morelos carried 112, the brigantine Natalia 127.

They left San Blas, Mexico on Aug. 3, 1834. He is listed on the brigantine Natalia-

Prudon, Victor age 31, farmer. This may be the Frenchman Victor Prudon, whose age is given elsewhere as 25.

A teacher. He married Teodocia Bojorquez. List from El Telegrafo, Mexico City, Sep. 14, 1834

1850 Census Sonoma p. 24. ln. 29 Dwelling 74, family 75

Prudon, Victor 41 mw translator real estate (\$) 1000 b. France ln. 30 Prudon, Antonio 5 mw b. Calif. From: Redwood Empire Social Hist. Project. Pub. 1933. Sent by Charmaine Burdell Martinelli.

Gates vs. Salmon p. 222 "It was admitted by all parties, 17 that Victor Prudon died intestate, in the year 1868, and that J.I.H. Harding was appointed by the probate court of Suisun Co. Calif. on the 10th on Jan. 1867, and is now acting as administrator of the estate.

Note: There is no Suisun County. E.G. Gudde in Calif. Place Names lists a bay, creek, city, valley, hill, point, slough, and cutoff for Solano and Contra Costa Counties. The death date here is different than given in the 1880 L.A. Co. History and the Charles Prudhomme article. I can give no explanation.

From: The Pacific Monthly, Aug. 1863, Vol. X. #4

The Prominent Men in California in 1846. A List Prepared by Thomas O. Larkin. p. 156

Victor Prudon; born in France; aged thirty-eight years; married; ten years a resident of California; now a citizen; has been employed as secretary of different officers: four years back was, by Colonel Vallejo, sent bearer of dispatches to Mexico; returned with General Micheltorena, as captain in the army—since which he has lived in Sonoma under pay; as a writer is somewhat respected for his talents, and his influence with the Vallejo family; is inclined towards the United States; can converse in English.

The Beginnings of San Francisco by Zoeth Skinner Eldredge, 1912 says Victor Prudon was well educated, of agreeable manners and attractive personal appearance. It also says he built an adobe house in 1839 near the s.w. corner of Montgomery and Pacific Sts. See: J.N. Bowman excerpts.

From: The Calif. Hist. Soc. Quarterly, Vol. 28

Lieut. Col. Victor Prudon, a very close friend of Capt. Salvador Vallejo, had been chosen as prosecuting attorney, and, as had been anticipated, the case went against Dr. Bale, Gen. M.G. Vallejo immediately dispatched the ruling to Governor Micheltorena, who wrote back ordering that the case be dropped completely.

Note: This was the result of Dr. Edward Turner Bale shooting at Salvador Vallejo who has sword whipped him in a duel because Bale had impugned Vallejo's veracity. The Bale Mill in Napa Co. is now a State Park. Victor Prudon is sometimes credited with an oil painting showing troops being reviewed at the Sonoma plaza with the Case Grande, Barracks and Misn. S.F. de Solano in the background.

cabinetmaker by trade. In the early '50s, while residing at the Cucamonga Rancho, raising stock, he also manufactured brandy and wine, which were supplied to the pueblo. The product was transported by carreta and oxen, and the speed was slow. About 1858 the rancho was sold to John Rains who, on November 17, 1862, was murdered at Lower Azusa.

In 1856, when outlaws became so numerous as to endanger the safety of the community, a Vigilance Committee was organized. Among the loyal citizens who joined to uphold the law were Myron

Norton, H. M. Alexander and Leon Victor Prudhomme. A few of the outlaws were caught and hanged, and the others, fearing similar treatment, departed.

March 1, 1860, the French Consul in Los Angeles, Jacob Antoine Moerenhout, called a meeting of resident Frenchmen to form a society. Leon Victor Prudhomme was the first secretary of that notable society.

After returning to Los Angeles, Prudhomme was wedded to Senorita Mercedes, only daughter of Don T. Tapia, an account of whose life appeared in a recent issue of The Grizzly Bear. To this union were born five children—Elexsis, Emily, Charley, Carrie, and Onorena. Alexsis and Onorena died when very young; Emily married Thomas Gates and Carrie wedded Frank McMahon,

but both have passed away; the son, Charley, the writer of this article, is the only surviving child.

Leon Victor Prudhomme died at Los Angeles, May 8, 1871, at the age of 63, and his widow passed away at the same city October 10, 1912, at the age of 81.

Among the adventurous Pioneers of California who arrived as early as 1835, was a Frenchman, Leon Victor Prudhomme by name, but known among the Spanish element as "Prudon." While he played an important part in the state's early history and was recognized as one faithful in all dealings with his fellow-men, the various works treating of California's early history afford but little information concerning him.

From a surviving son, Charley Prudhomme, a member of Ramona Parlor, No. 109, Native Sons of the Golden West (Los Angeles), The Grizzly Bear has obtained, and herewith presents, a brief account of the career of Mr. Prudhomme that will aid in completing the record of the California Pioneers.—Editor.

Settlement of the Bodega Bay Region by Margaret Edith Trussel AD U. of Cal. 1949
 MA Long Beach State Coll. 1957. Thesis. Most of Arts in Geography in the Graduate
 Div. of the U. of Calif.

At least two men were so impressed with the prospect of Bodega's future that they applied for a land grant while the Russians still occupied it. But the Mexican Governor was carefull to avoid annoying the Russians and refused these opportunities. In 1840 John Vioget's application was referred to Mexico, because the Russian holdings were not yet vacant (Smith vs. U.S.) In 1841, Victor Prudon petitioned for a tract of 6 leagues of the Russian holdings -- which the company was then preparing to abandon. Prudon said that he wished to establish a sawmill, to cultivate sugar beets, and to raise horses and cattle. He explained that, although there was little land suitable for agriculture and cattle raising, the rancho, because of its abundant wood and water, would be suitable for his purposes. He was instructed to wait and press his claim after the Russian departure, but by the time he was able to do so, the area had been granted to Capt. Smith. John Sutter too, endeavoured to obtain the Russian holdings. He bought out the Russian property and sent Bidwell to hold the area, but the Mexican Gov. would not recognize his claim to the land -- not having recognized the Russian Claim -- and Sutter was unable to obtain the grant.

p.24 Victor Prudon did a survey of Estero Americano c. 1844

UNIDENTIFIED: Juan Baptista Prudon, sponsor for Jose Isidro Bojorques at Misn. S.F. de Solano, 2 June 1847, son of Angel Maria de la Luz Bojorques & wife Maria Clara Lorenza Higuera

Vallejo Son of California by Myrtle M. McKittrick; 1944, has some mentions of Victor Prudon. Incidents not noted are:

p. 147 In 1839 M.G. Vallejo had tried to impose discipline upon the leather jackets in California and some ended up in the guardhouse. Padre Duran tried to end the difficulties by going to Vallejo. Against protocol Duran had to stand while Vallejo and Prudon sat on the only two chairs in the office at Sonoma. There had been prev-differences between Duran and Vallejo.

p. 173 M.G. Vallejo had morning conferances with Victor Prudon.

p. 194 Prudon brought the French traveller to Vallejo's office. +

p. 238 Indians deserting from around Mission S.F. de Solano had stole horses and gone to the area controlled by John Sutter. Vallejo sent a warning to Sutter and Lt. Col. Prudon to bring back the horses.

p. 239 Sutter claimed that he was offered \$100,000 and Mission San Jose for New Helvetia with Victor Prudon and Jacob Leese as the emissaries and who then returned to Sonoma. The author thinks that this was Sutter's offer.

p. 268 (while held prisoner at Sutter's Fort after the Bear Flag seizure of Sonoma)
 But Sutter was soon to receive notice that he did not know how to treat prisoners. Of a sudden, his visits stopped; there were no more walks in the cool of the evening. Fremont's orders," the prisoners learned, as they heard of his threat to hang Sutter to the great oak tree in the corner should one of the prisoners escape.

John Bidwell, to whose care they were entrusted, came to sith with them while Victor Prudon instructed him in the "uno, dos, tres" of the Spanish tongue. But he resigned in protest when Fremont's artist, E.M. Kern, produced his captain's orders that the prisoners were to be held "incomunicado."

+ EDGEME DOFLAT DE WDPKX5
 BOODKROES PART 2, P. 57

LEON VICTOR PRUDHOMME, b. c. 1821-22 (1850 census, age 28; 1860 census, 39) 19
Theancourt or Theonville ? Moselles, France
m. 4 July 1847, Plaza Church, L.A. (I #124) Witnesses were
Abel Stearns and Jose Atimirano
d. 8 May 1871 (Plaza Difs. II, #2316)

Note: If the same as Victor Prudon, he is listed as Frudor, Victor 31 or elsewhere
2nd. as 25 by C. Alan Hutchinson, Pacific Historical Review, 11 Aug. 1973

Wife:

MARIA MERCED TAPIA VAZEVEDO ,b. (pts: Tiburcio Tapia listed as m.
d. to Ma. Tomasa Valdez in Maria
Northrup Vol. II)

Children:

1. GUILLERMO, bap. ae. 6 L.A. Plaza Ch. 10 Nov. 1851 and adopted by Victor Prudhomme.
may be the 3 yr. old Nicolas, An Indian enumerated with the family in
1850 but there is an age gap.
m.
d.
2. MARIA EMIDIA TOMASA, bap. at the Plaza ch I, #1917, at the ae. of 1 day on 6 Aug.
1848. Padrinos: Estaban Jourdain (Frances) and Basilia Alanis
widow of Louis Bauchet.
m. Thomas Gates, 38 of Brand Co. ? Confirmed 13 Dec.
1857, I, 660 with Arcadia Bandini as sponsor.
d.
3. MARIA ELISA (or Eliza), bap. ae. 3 mos. at the Plaza Ch. II, 531 Nov. 1851. Spon-
sors Abel Stearns & wife Arcadia Bandini. She was confir-
med 13 Dec. 1855, I, 643, Basilia Alanis as sponsor. This
must be the sister Charley Prudhomme calls Elexisis and she
died young. I did not find a death record.
4. JOSE CARLOS, bap. at the ae. of 13 days 20 Dec. 1854 at the Plaza Ch II, 1097.
Sponsors: Abel Stearns and Arcadia Bandini. This is, of course, our
author Charley. Alive at time of article, 1919.
m.
d.
5. CAROLINA ARCADIA, bap. 3 July 1858 (b. 15 June) at the Plaza Ch. III, 16. Sponsor
Abel Stearns and Arcadia Bandini.
m. Frank McMahon acc. to her bro.
d. by 1919 article
6. HONORINA MARGARITA, bap. 1 Apr. 1865 (b. 28 Mar.) at the Plaza Ch. Iv, #49. Spon-
sors: Luis Sainsevain & Arcadia Bandini. She died at the ae.
of 2 years and was bur. 21 May 1867. II, 1365. This of course
is Onorena.

From: Ranchos of Calif. by Robt. G. Cowen. Cucamonga. San Bernadino Co. at Cucamonga
Alta Loma and Upland. 3 leagues granted to Tiburcio Tapia in 1839. L.V. Prud-
homme was claimant for 13,045 acres, patented Dec. 3, 1872

The family group is based on that sent by Rudecinda Lo Buglio in 1992 see p. 22

NOTE: MRS. CHARLES MARTINELLI SENT A PACKET OF LEGAL DATA WHICH ADDS to the details on L.V. Prudon or Prudhomme but which does not clarify the already 20 confusing situation as to his death. In Gates vs. Salmon they thought he was dead in 1868 but his death is recorded in southern Calif in 1871. He appears in the 1850 census at Sonoma listed on p. 16 and again in 1850 as Prudhomme, Leon V. los 036 no twp 1 - accelerated Indexing System Inc. p. 105. A Pruden, Dresden Mari 034 to twp 1 is also listed, evidently for Marin Co. The 2 listings in far apart places indicate 2 different persons but his son in the article on p. 16 thinks they are both his father. He would have been 16 when his father died. How much of his personal history did his father tell him? Did Charles Prudhomme assume his father L.V. Prudhomme was the same as Victor Prudon or was he told this by his father.

In a 1926 edition of the L.A. Times Mirror Press 1850 census of L.A.: p. 99
435-435 Leon V Prudhomme 28 m grazier 1400 (land value) b. France

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Maria | 18 f |
| Emily | 2 f |
| Jose la Cruz Tania | 13m |
| Maria P. Villa | 13f |
| Maria | 11f |
| Nicolas | 3m |

(He is too young to be Victor Prudon
ae. 25 or 31 in 1834 and the other
names do not correspond with his children yet unborn except Maria Maria
Emidia Tomasa b. in 1848. Maria ae.
18 may be his 2nd. wife.)

On p. 124 he is noted as being in 60 Years in Southern Calif a biography

Rudecinda Lo Buglio found - L.A. Pioneers of 1836, L.A. Herald 1883 and L.A. Hist. Soc. 1903 and Or. Co. Gen. Soc. Vol. IX #1 Mar 1972, p. 2;

Victor Prudon age 27 b. France to Calif 1835.

Padron de la Ciudad de Los Ang. y su Jurisdiccion Ano 1836 (Quarterly Hist. Soc. S. Cal. Vol. XVIII #3 Sep-Dec. 1936 p. 28;

Victor Prudon ae. 26 L.A. prof of languages nat. France single, This would be before he went to northern Calif. In these two he is the right age. Mrs. Lo Buglio wrote he was not in the 1844 census. He was probably in Northern Calif. at the time. From Larkin Papers. Officers Civil and Military. Grade of Lt. Col. Victor Prudon b. France, appt. by Mex. Govt. Montly Pay 94:21 gross amount due for wages up to Jan. 1, 1846 1419.73

Back to C.B. Martinelli data: L.A. Directory 1872 Prudhomme Marced Alameda St. (wife
" Charles " " ?)

In a letter dated 12-11-83 papers from the estate of Victor Prudon shows he died either Jan. 1 or as testified by Julio and Teodora (Bojorques, Prudon) Carrillo Aug. 1 1861 in France. That he had a child Juan N. Prudon age 25 living in Los Angeles. However this individual was baptized as a natural son of Maria Teodocia Bojorques.

On The Matter of the estate of Victor Prudon deceased - sent by C.B. Martinelli
Probate Court County of Sonoma

The undersigned respectfully shows to this court that he is the son of Victor Prudon deceased and as such is entitled to administrator upon the estate of said deceased

That said deceased died intestate in the Empire of France in the year 1861. That said deceased at the time of his death was the owner of an interest in real estate in the County of Sonoma, State of California. That the Probate Court of said County of Sonoma appointed one J.T. Hardin Administrator of said estate.

In the year 1861 with out the knowledge or consent of the petitioner. That said petitioner does not desire to undertake the administration of said estate but John Knight a resident of Sanel in the County of Mendocino has consented to serve in said capacity and has petitioned for letters of administration are presented and filed herewith.

Wherefore your petitioner requests that the letters of administration heretofore granted to said J.T. Hardin be revoked and the said letters be cancelled and that said John Knight be appointed in his stead as administrator of the estate of Victor Prudon deceased, June 14, 1870. Juan N. Prudon

Bancroft's Pio. Reg. & Index: Knight, John, 1847, Co. N.Y. Volunteers V. 499, at Ukiah '71-82.

In the Probate Court of the County of Sonoma State of California In the matter of 21
the Estate of Victor Prudon Deceased. Petition for Order of Sale of Real Estate
To the Hon. C W Langdon Judge of the Probate Court of the Said County of Sonoma
State of California?

The petition of J. L. Hardin Administrator of the estate of Victor Prudon deceased, respectfully shows: That said Victor Prudon died intestate, on or about the first day of January A.D. 1861 in the Empire of France being at the time of his death a resident of the Said County of Sonoma and leaving estate in Said County of Sonoma consisting solely of an interest in real estate

That on the third day of August A.D. 1869 your petitioner duly qualified as such Administrator of said estate, signed by the Clerk, and under the seal of said Court, were thereupon duly issued to your petitioner A competent person to wit: on the day 1st aforesaid, which said Letters have not been revoked

That your petitioner thereupon entered upon the discharge of his duties as such Administrator and immediately after his appointment caused to be published in the "Sonoma Democrat" a newspaper printed and published in said County of Sonoma notice to the creditors of the said deceased, requiring all persons, having claims against the said deceased, to exhibit them with the necessary vouchers, within ten months after the first publication of the said notice, to said Administrator at the place of business specified in the said notice, which notice has been duly published as ordered by said Probate Court and after such notice had been given, a copy thereof with the affidavit of the publication was filed, and upon such affidavit a decree was made, showing that due and legal notice to creditors had been given, and directing that such ? ? entered in the minutes of said Court:

That your petitioner duly made and returned to said Court, at its past term after his appointment, to wit: on the fifth day of August A.D. 1869 a true inventory and appraisement of all the estate of the said, deceased, which has come to his possession or knowledge.

All which will more fully appear by reference to the papers on file in the Clerk's office, and to the records of said Court in the matter of said estate.

(handwritten) That no personal property whatever has come to the hands of your petitioner and none is known to belong to said deceased and upon (?) informations and beliefs petitioner alleged that said Victor Prudon died without owing at the time of his death any personal property whatever. There are no debts against said estate to the knowledge of petitioner.....That the expenses, and charges of the administration already accrued, amount to the sum of \$250.00. That upon said sum of \$250.00 nothing has been paid out of the said personal estate that has come to the hands of your petitioner, as aforesaid, leaving a balance unpaid, of \$250.00.

That the debts, expenses, and charges of administration that will or may accrue during the administration are estimated by your petitioner at the sum of \$100.00.... estimated expenses, and charges of administration that will or may accrue, \$350.00...

That the condition and value of the intestates interest in said real estate are set forth in the Schedule marked "D" hereunto annexed and made a part of this petition:

That (handwriting) this interest in said real estate was the separate property of the said Victor Prudon Acquired by him before marriage) and is therefore his definite ? property. That said deceased left no wife Child or children, father or mother or other relative to the knowledge of the petitioner.

Your petitioner therefore alleges that the personal estate in the hands of your petitioner is insufficient to pay the debts outstanding against the deceased, and the debts, expenses, and charges of the administration: and that it is necessary to sell the whole, or some portion of the real estate for such purposes: (handwriting) That said interest in real estate is fully set forth and described in the said inventory which is hereby referred to as a part of this petition and made a part of the same, That said interest is now in litigation and is a burden and expense to said estate and yields no rents or profits of any kind whatever and is wholly worthless and unavailable ? to said estate

Wherefore, your petitioner pray that an order be made by this Court directing all persons interested in said estate to appear before said Court at a time and place specified, not less than four nor more than ten weeks from the time of making such order, to show cause why an order should not be granted to your petitioner to sell so much of the real estate of the deceased as shall be necessary:

That at the time and place appointed in such order, or at such other time as the

hearing may be adjourned to, upon satisfactory proof of the due service or publication of a copy of the order, by affidavit or otherwise, or upon filing the consent in writing to such sale, of all parties interested.

"Exhibit - 13"

22

Attorney fees \$200.00
Clerk & printers fees \$50.00 (total) \$250.00

"Schedule C

Advertising & c and additional Attorney fees by reason of the sole (?) prayed for in petition as above \$100.00

"Ex D"

An interest in the "Rancho Laguna de San Antonio" or "Bojorques Ranch" which interest is inchoate, is non-productive: yields no rents or profits, is in litigation and has been for 8 years last past and still is, and is a burden to said estate, and whether said estate has any interest in said Ranch, etc-pends upon the result of ? ? pending

Probate Court proceed to the hearing of this petition, and if such consent be not filed hear and examine the allegations and proofs of your petitioner and of all persons interested in the said estate, who may oppose this application:

And that after a full hearing of this petition, and an examination of the proofs and allegations of the parties interested, an order of sale be made, authorizing your petitioner to sell so much and such parts of the said estate as said Court shall judge necessary or beneficial: or that such other or further order may be made as is meet in the premises, (hand writing) and that said sale be a private and your petitioner will ever pray, &c.

Dated October 2nd 1869 Latimer ? McCullough Atty for Petitioner
State of California County of Sonoma

J L Hardin the petitioner above named, being duly sworn say that he has heard read the foregoing petition, and knows the contents thereof, and that the same is true of his own knowledge, except as to the matters which are therein stated on his information or belief: and as to those matters, that on his information or belief: and as to those matters, that he believes it to be true. Subscribed and sworn to before me, this second day of October A.D. 1869 J.T. Hardin

From: Historic Spots in California 1990 edition revised by Douglas E. Kyle

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY 310

Rancho Cucamonga

Rancho Cucamonga derived its name from an Indian village that was on the land when the first white men came there. Tradition tells us that the Cucamonga Indians were unusually intelligent and industrious and that they learned much from the padres, who sometimes came from Mission San Gabriel to visit them. Gradually they acquired cattle and horses and raised good crops of corn and melons in the fertile hills and valleys of "Nuestra Señora del Pilar de Cucamonga," as the padres called the locality.

Tiburcio Tapia, a leading citizen of Los Angeles, petitioned for a grant to the Cucamonga lands in 1839 and received it in that year. Don Tiburcio immediately began the construction of an adobe house on the crest of Cucamonga's highest hill. Its roof was covered with brea from Rancho La Brea near Los Angeles. It was said to be "massive as a fortress, facing south, with east and west wings and a gateway to the north side."

The Indians, who were employed in the building operations, rebelled when they realized that the newcomers were taking their rich grazing lands from them. Retreating to the foothills and canyons, they made occasional raids upon the stock of the white settlers. Desert Indians, too, frequently invaded the rancho lands, and many tales were told by old residents of raids and battles and even attacks upon the Tapia "fortress" on "Red Hill."

In the beginning, Don Tiburcio left his rancho largely in the care of his mayordomo, José María Valdez, who is said to have set out the "mother vineyard."

This later developed into one of the large plantings of grapes in California, the first cuttings probably having been obtained at Mission San Gabriel. The history of the old rancho is closely associated with the development of its vineyard.

Among other traditions of those early days at Cucamonga is that of the chest of coins that Don Tiburcio is said to have hidden when rumors of war began to herald the aggression of the United States in Alta California. It is said that this chest contained not only Señor Tapia's own money but that entrusted to him by friends, and also a sum collected for the building of a chapel at Cucamonga.

Tiburcio Tapia died suddenly in 1845. No one knew where the chest had been hidden, except an Indian servant whom Don Tiburcio had sworn to secrecy. Nor would the Indian disclose the whereabouts of the hidden treasure, so great was his fear of the fulfillment of the terrifying oath that Don Tiburcio had placed upon him.

A few years later, Tiburcio Tapia's daughter, María Merced, married Leon V. Prudhomme, and moved with him to the adobe on Red Hill. Doña María, who knew the story of the hidden treasure, slept in her father's room. One night, so the story goes, she saw a mysterious light moving across the chamber wall, and resting upon a particular spot. The apparition was repeated a number of times, greatly disturbing the young wife. In order to prove that the vision was entirely imaginary, her husband plunged a knife into the adobe wall. To his amazement, it went through the wall, disclosing a hollow space behind. In the aperture was a purse con-

see p. 27

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State of California,

County of *Sonoma*

In the Probate Court.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

Victor Rudon

Petition for Letters of Administration.

Deceased.

To the Hon. the Judge of the Probate Court of the

County of *Sonoma*

The Petition of *J. S. Hardin* respectfully
showeth:

That *Victor Rudon* died
in the *Empire* of *Russia* *France*
State of *France* on or about the *1st* day of
January A. D. *1861*

That said deceased ~~was~~ previous to the time of his death, was a resident
of the *Sonoma* County of *Sonoma*
State of *California* and that *he* has left estate in this ~~county~~ county,
and within the jurisdiction of this Court.

That due search and inquiry have been made to ascertain if said deceased left any
will and testament, but none has been found and according to the best knowledge and belief
of your petitioner, said deceased died intestate.

Your petitioner further shows that the estate of said deceased so far as *he* has been
able to ascertain the same, is of about the value of *One hundred dollars*
and consists of as follows: *An interest in the Argentine*
Rancho but the extent thereof cannot
be ascertained as the same is now in
litigation and has been for 8 years
lost - frost - and yet may prove to be fully
valuable

That the ~~only~~ heirs at law of said deceased, ~~as is known to your petitioner~~, are

unknown to petitioner

WHEREFORE, Your petitioner prays that a day of Court may be appointed for hearing
this application, that due notice thereof be given by the Clerk by posting notices according to law,
and that upon said hearing, and the proofs to be adduced, letters of Administration upon said
estate may be issued to your petitioner. And your petitioner will ever pray, &c.,

Dated

Sonoma *July 21st 1861*

J. S. Hardin

State of California,

County of *Sanoma*

L. J. Hardin
 the above named petitioner being duly sworn, say that has read the foregoing petition and knows the contents thereof, and that the same is true of his own knowledge, except as to the matters therein stated to be on information or belief, and as to those matters he believes it to be true.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

day of

*July*18*69**W. L. Anderson**L. J. Hardin*

Probate Court.

COUNTY OF

ESTATE OF

William Brewster

Decedent.

PETITION FOR LETTERS
OF ADMINISTRATION.

Filed

*July 21st 1869**W. L. Anderson*

Deputy Clerk.

In the Probate Court
OF THE
COUNTY OF Sonoma
State of California.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE

Victor Prudon

DECEASED.

To the Hon.

C. N. Langdon

Court of the

County of

Sonoma.

Judge of the Probate

State of California;

The petition of

John Knight of Mendocino County

of said State

lawfully shows:

That

Victor Prudon

died on or about the

day of

January

A. D. 1869

in the Empire of

France.

That said deceased at the time of his death was a resident of the State of California, but was at the time of his death the owner of real estate in the County of Sonoma in the State of California.

was resident of the Empire of France at the time of his death.

That said deceased left Estate in the

Said County of *Sonoma*

State of *California*

consisting of *an undivided interest in the*

Rancho Laguna de San Antonio property, or Bojorques Rancho

That the value and character of said property are as follows, to wit:

An undivided One Eighth part of said Rancho Laguna de San Antonio of the Value of about \$200,000

(That the next of kin of said deceased and when your petitioner

and therefore alleges to be the heir at law of said deceased, is *Juan N. Prudon a son*

aged about *twenty five*

years, and residing at

Los Angeles County State of California

The clerk will give notice by day, morning or evening, which will suit the convenience of Judge Langdon

John Knight

25

Attached- said Juan N. Prudon was born of the body of said Theodocia Prudon whilst living in lawful wedlock with said victor Prudon deceased-

Form : enclosed before me this 14th day of June A.D. 1870 ? Shattuck Notary Public

Jose Yeraldo Bojorques

State of California County of Sonoma

Jose Gerardo Bojorques being duly sworn deposes and says- I reside in Los Angeles County in said State and am about fifty two years of age, and well acquainted with Victor Prudon deceased who was my brother in law-Also with Theodocia Prudon his wife who is my sister, also with Juan N. Prudon the son of the said Victor Prudon and said Theodocia Prudon his wife-said Juan N. Prudon is the same person who has this day in my presence signed the foregoing petition to which this affidavit is annexed-said Juan N. Prudon was born of the body of said Theodocia Prudon whilst living in lawfull wedlock with said Victor Prudon deceased

? subscribed before me this 14th day of June A.D. 1870

? Pedro Bojorques State of California

That due search and inquiry have been made to ascertain if said deceased left any will and testament, but none has been found, and according to the best knowledge, information and belief of your petitioner said deceased died intestate:

That your petitioner *John Knight* has been requested, in ^{writing} by said *Juan* *x Ruden* said son *heir* of said deceased to administer *the* ~~estate~~ ^{of} said deceased, and therefore, as your petitioner advised and believe *to* ^{be} entitled to Letters of Administration of said estate:

Which said request is hereto annexed and made part of this petition

WHEREFORE, your petitioner pray that a day of Court may be appointed for hearing this application, that due notice thereof be given by the Clerk by posting notices according to law, and that upon said hearing,

and the proofs to be adduced, Letters of Administration of said Estate may be issued to your petitioner *and that the letters of Administration on said Estate be given to J. Harden he deceased, and And your petitioner will ever pray, &c. for that said Harden be called to appear at 11. time and place so appointed and show cause why the prayer of this petition should not be granted. And your petition made ever possible.*
Dated June 14th 1870.

John Knight

Probate Court.

COUNTY OF *Wash.*

In the Matter of the Estate

OF

John Knight
Deceased.

Petition for Letters of Administration.

Filed *June 14th 1870*

DEPUTY CLERK.

State of California, County of California
 Pedro Bojorques being duly sworn deposes and says-I reside in the County of Marin in said State will be fifty years of age the 29th day of June 1870-And am well acquainted with Victor Prudon deceased-who was my brother in law. Also with Theodocia Prudon his wife who is my sister-Also with Juan N. Prudon the son of said Victor Prudon and said Theodocia Prudon his wife-said Juan N. Prudon is the same person who has this day in my presence signed the foregoing petition to which this affidavit

taining some silver coins and a scrap of paper with its message faded with age. The paper was studied very carefully and much searching followed, but all in vain. No treasure was ever found, though searchers have not been lacking through the years. The Tapia adobe has long since returned to its native clay.

In 1858, Victor Prudhomme sold Rancho Cucamonga to John Rains and his wife, Mercedes Williams. An unpublished history of the 1890's says: "The coming of John Rains to this place marked not only a new but a progressive epoch in its history. The old Tapia residence on the hill was abandoned and a new one built at the highest point of the east bank of the arroyo, north of the vineyard. Labor and expense was not spared in its construction. . . . The walls were built of heavy brick made of the red clay dug from the hills and

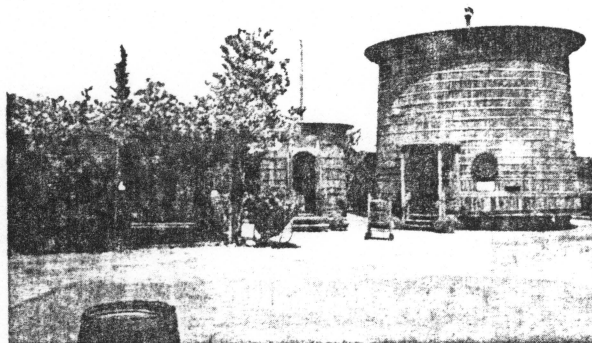
roofed with thatches covered with brea mixed with tallow. . . . A little to the east of the Valdez residence was built the store and nearby a blacksmith shop, stables, and several dwellings. . . . The rancho was stocked by Mr. Rains with sheep, horses, and cattle, and 160 acres was set to vines. The small still and winery were proportionately enlarged and improved. The road from Los Angeles to San Bernardino by way of Chino having been abandoned by the stage for the Arroyo San José routes to Bear Valley and the mines, this became a regular station, where the horses were changed and the traveler enabled to obtain refreshments.

"With the vaqueros in charge of the flocks and herds, the laborers in the vineyards and winery, the stable hands in charge of stage relays, mechanics at work on buildings, teamsters, the blacksmiths and a trader and postmaster, the place became not only a hive of industry, but noted as the chief trading post and assembly point for all classes and nationalities east of Los Angeles. The Rains home was a center of social life, and, attracted by the hospitality of its master, the beauty of its mistress, the sparkling wines and festivities, here frequently gathered the representative wealthy and elite of the south."

This rather romantic account tells of what was really but a brief period of years. On November 17, 1862, John Rains was murdered, leaving his 23-year-old widow with four small children and pregnant with a fifth. After a series of accusations, one Manuel Cerradel was arrested and confined to prison. Convicted not of Rains's murder but of an assault on a deputy sheriff, Cerradel was brutally lynched by a group of men while on his way to prison at San Quentin the following year. Ramón Carrillo, a family friend who had been accused by Robert Carlisle, Mercedes Williams Rains's brother-in-law, of the murder of John Rains, was shot to death in Mercedes's presence in 1864; Carlisle was killed in a shooting the following year. The distraught Mercedes married José Clemente Carrillo in 1864 and ultimately the couple became so indebted that they lost their estate. A daughter of John and Mercedes Rains, Fran-

cisca, married a young lawyer named Henry T. Gage in 1880. Gage became governor of California in 1899, and Mercedes attended his inaugural in Sacramento.

Meanwhile, the Rains home, also known as Casa de Rancho Cucamonga, had become the property of I. W. Hellman through a mortgage foreclosure in 1871. In the following years the home was for a while a private residence and for a while a hotel. From 1922 to 1948 Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Motsinger lived in the house, which they lovingly restored and to which they welcomed Francisca Rains Gage as a guest in 1946. In 1969 nearby Cucamonga Wash flooded and destroyed much of the



Thomas Winery, Rancho Cucamonga

surrounding area and the house had to be abandoned. After considerable legal difficulties, the property came into the possession of the San Bernardino Museum Association. The restored house is now on the National Register of Historic Landmarks and is open to the public at 7869 Vineyard Avenue, Rancho Cucamonga.

The old adobe winery (SRL 490) built by John Rains stands nearby at 8916 Foothill Boulevard. Established in 1839 by Tiburcio Tapia, this is the oldest commercial winery in California. The winery was restored by H. H. Thomas, the eastern end being replaced after the 1969 flood, and today does business as the Thomas Winery. The Cucamonga District was once among the major wine-producing regions, but urban encroachment has restricted the acreage devoted to vines considerably in recent years.

To the west of the winery, across Cucamonga Creek, is the site of the Tapia adobe (SRL 360) on the southeastern slope of Red Hill, which is now built up with homes and covered by the greens of the Red Hill Country Club.

Gates vs. Salmon p.259, Aug. 4, 1870 THEODOCISIA BOJORQUES de CARILLO called for defendants, and examined through Mr. Gillespie, interpreter Mr. Southard objects to the witness' testifying to any facts during her coverture with Victor Prudon. The Court overruled the objection. 28

Mr. Pearce: Question. "Where do you reside?" Answer. "Santa Rosa."

Q. "What is the name of your father?" A. "Bartolome Bojorques."

Q. "Did your father, in his lifetime, make you any title to land?"

A. "Yes sir, I believe so."

Q. "Did you ever pay your father any money, or other valuable thing for the land?" A. "No sir."

Q. "Did your then husband, Victor Prudon, pay anything, to your knowledge?" A. "I don't know whether he did or not."

Q. "What land do you allude to?" A. "The property which I sold."

Q. "What is the name of it?" A. "The Laguna de San Antonio."

Q. "Did you know Victor Prudon during his lifetime?" A. "Yes sir."

Q. "Did you intermarry with him?" A. "Yes sir."

Q. "At the time that your father made your title to this land, were you living with Victor Prudon?" A. "Yes sir."

Q. "Do you know the date of it?" A. "No sir."

Q. "Were you then living with Victor Prudon?" A. "No sir."

Q. "Did you ever live or cohabit with Victor Prudon after you and he separated?"

Mr. Southard objected to the question as irrelevant and incompetent.

A. "No sir." The Court overruled the objection.

Q. "Do you know where Victor Prudon resided immediately after his separation from you?" A. "Yes sir."

Q. "Where." A. "In Mexico."

By Mr. Wilson. Q. "You say in reply to the first question, you believe your father made a title to you, for a portion of the Laguna de San Antonio ranch. When did you first receive any information of that fact. When did you first hear of it?"

A. "It is a long time since the thing was spoken of."

By Mr. Colton. Q. "Did your father ever give you a deed to any land?"

A. "He never gave me a deed in my hand, but he gave me the land."

Q. "When did he give the deed to you?"

A. "He gave me the land without a title deed, and I sold the land."

Q. "Did he ever give you a title deed?"

A. "In my hand he did not give me anything."

Mr. Wildson. Q. "When did you first receive any information from any one, that your father had made a deed or title to any of his children of the ranch of San Antonio. Up to the time that you conveyed the land to Bliss, Salmon and Touchard, of your interest in the San Antonio Rancho, had you heard from any source, that your father had made a deed to the land, or any part of it."

Mr. Pearce object to the question on the ground that she is incompetent to testify to any thing that would defeat the conveyance.

The court overruled the objection, to which ruling exception was taken.

A. "Yes sir."

Q. "How long before you made that conveyance to Salmon, Bliss and Touchard, had you heard of the conveyance by your father to you?"

A. "I don't recollect at what time."

Q. "State as nearly as you can how long before that?"

A. "It is a long time; something like 14 or 15 years."

Q. "Were you sworn as a witness at Santa Rosa, in the case of Pearce vs. Wilson, in the month of June last?"

A. "I was there as a witness."

Q. "On that occasion were you not examined in relation to this same matter-the matter of your father making a deed to you?"

A. "Yes sir; but I don't recollect very well."

Q. "Did you not swear on that occasion that your father never made you a title to any part of the rancho Laguna de San Antonio?"

A. "He never gave me a deed in my hands, but I know that he gave me the property."

Q. "Did you swear on that occasion that he never gave you a deed at all, but simply promised that he would give you a piece of the land: 29 did you not so swear?" A. "Yes sir."

Q. "Did you tell the truth then?" A. "I did not understand very well."

Q. "Did you not swear on that occasion that up to the time that you made a deed to Bliss, Touchard, and Salmon, that you never heard from any source, that your father had made you a deed to the rancho Laguna de San Antonio, or any part of it; did you not so swear?"

A. "I didn't understand well at that time; I knew that the title were made; I don't recollect: I did not understand well."

Q. "Didn't the interpreter explain to you that the question put to you was, not that your father had given you a piece of land, but that the source whatever, that he had made to you any paper of any part of the Rancho Laguna de San Antonio?"

A. "The interpreter was very bad-I had heard that the land was to be partitioned among us."

Q. "Who was the interpreter?" A. "Mrs. Parks."

Q. "Who produced that interpreter?" A. "I don't know."

Q. "You say that you could not understand the interpreter?"

A. "No, sir, not well."

Q. "Did the interpreter say to you after explaining the question to you, that it was about the conveyance of the land; and did you not tell the interpreter that you did understand?"

A. "She did not explain so well as the interpreter that is acting now."

Q. "Were you examined as a witness in February last, when Mr. Coldton was an attorney on one side, and Mr. Pearce on the other side, at Santa Rosa?" A. "Yes sir."

Q. "Did you not testify on that occasion that your father had never made you any title to the rancho of San Antonio?"

A. "I did not understand the interpreter well on that occasion."

Q. "Do you know whether you swore so or not?" A. "I do not recollect."

Q. "Who told you that your father had made you a title to any part of the land of the Rancho Laguna de San Antonio?"

A. "I knew that it was for us all."

Q. "Who told you?"

A. "My father had spoken of it and gave me the land that we might sell it."

Q. "Did your father tell you that he had made you a title, or only that he was going to give you a piece of the land?"

A. "He said that he gave it to us at that time."

Q. "Gave the land, or the title to it?" A. "The land."

Q. "Did your father tell you that he had made you a title, or only that he was going to give you a piece of the land?"

A. "He said that he gave it to us at that time."

Q. "Gave the land, or the title to it?" A. "The land."

Q. "Did your father ever tell you that he had given you a title to the land?" A. "Yes sir."

Q. "When did he tell you that?"

A. "It was a long time ago. I don't recollect. It was long before I sold the land."

Q. "How long before you sold the land?" A. "About two years before I sold the land."

Q. "Was your father the first one that told you that he had made you a title to the land?" A. "He was."

Q. "And he first told you about two years before you made the sale of the land?" A. "Yes sir."

Q. "Do you remember where you were when he told you so?"

A. "We were in Santa Rosa."

Q. "Who was present when he told you that?"

A. "All my brothers were present."

Q. "Are you sure that Marcella, (Mrs. Lopes,) was present?" A. "I think not."

- Q. "Was there anything paid by any of them on that occasion, to your father for the land?" A. "No sir."
- Q. "Anything of value or money?" A. "No, nothing."
- Q. "Did they promise him anything?" A. "No sir."
- Q. "Are you sure of that?" A. "Yes sir."
- Q. "Are you sure this was at Santa Rosa?" A. "Yes sir."

JULIO CARRILLO called for defendant, sworn, examined.
 By Mr. Pearce. Question. "What is your name?" A. "Julio Carillo."
 Q. "Do you know where you resided in 1846?" A. "At Santa Rosa and Sonoma."
 Q. "Did you know Victor Prudhon in his lifetime?" A. "Yes sir."
 Q. "Did you know Theodosia, the last witness, in 1846?" A. "Yes sir."
 Q. "Do you know the date of the separation of Victor Prudhon from Theodosia?" A. "November 1846."
 Q. "Can you state whether they ever lived and cohabited together as husband and wife after that time?" A. "No sir, they never did."
 Q. "You can state that they did not?" A. "Yes sir."
 Q. "Did they ever live together as husband and wife, after that time?" A. "Never, since November, 1846."
 Q. "Do you know where Prudhon resided from 1846 up to the time he left this State?"
 A. "Partly in Sonoma, partly in San Francisco, partly in Sandwich Islands, and a part of the time in China."
 Q. "Do you know when he finally left this State?" A. "In 1856 or 1857."
 Q. "Do you know whether he ever returned to the State since he left?" A. "Not to my knowledge."
 Q. "Theodosia is your present wife, is she not?"
 A. "Yes sir. I am not sure whether he left in 1856 or 1857."

Note: The question about the division of Rancho Laguna de San Antonio into 9 parts could have been easily answered by examination of the Marin County records for on Nov. 21, 1851 it was recorded in the Book of Deeds on p. A 98 and 106. See - Bojorques Part 2, p. 29.

Now, about Victor Prudon, I'll copy some data from Juan B. Alvarado's manuscript, "Historia de California" [5 volumes in the Bancroft Library, call no. C-D 1-5. There is also a typed translation of the 5 volumes, call no. C-D 1-5 Transl.] Volume 3, page 238.

[February, 1837] While I was in Santa Barbara, awaiting the arrival of the deputies, I had an interview with a Frenchman named Victor Prudon, who had figured in affairs in Los Angeles re the popular tribunal (vigilante) which executed the woman Rosario Villa. Prudon, then about twenty-eight years old, was considered a learned man. He knew French, English, and Castilian languages [had spent 7 years in Mexico before coming to Calif.], and as an extemporaneous orator had no equal in California. I offered him the post of private secretary, which he accepted, and he was an ardent sympathizer with the principles which my following had espoused. Prudon some time later figured in a prominent manner in the political life of this country [Bear Flag affair].

Vol. 4, pp. 14-16 [Sept. 1837]. Captain Andrés Castillero made two trips to Mexico City with important letters. The letters to Mexico, written as a private nature, painted in glowing colors the reasons why the Territorial Diputación declared California separate from Mexico. Victor Prudon, the secretary, [helped compose these letters], and he was so good at this that the comandante general, Vallejo, induced him to leave me and go to Sonoma. Vallejo being wealthier than I, did not have much trouble persuading Prudon.

Vol. 4, p. 198-199. [about Jan. 1842]. At about the same time that I returned to Monterey, Lt. Col. Victor Prudon left Sonoma and set out for Mexico [City] on behalf of Gen. Vallejo to place in President Bustamante's hands Vallejo's correspondence. . . . [p. 200] When Prudon arrived in Monterey, he called on Señor José Abrego [treasurer of the Department] and asked for a large amount of money which Vallejo had requested. Abrego did not have the money on hand and consulted with me and José Castro, and I told him he would have to wait like the others. . . . Jan. 18, 1842, Prudon set out for Mexico City, along with my representative. He [Prudon] was a very astute man, so when he got to the capital and learned that Gen. Santa Anna had rallied the entire nation to his standard, instead of worshipping the setting sun [Bustamante], he went to pay his respects to the rising sun [Santa Anna], and strange to relate, he left Santa Anna so pleased that the executive ordered him made a lieutenant coronel of the Mexican Army and invited him to take part in the court balls that were very much in vogue in the winter of 1842 in Mexico City. This foreigner [Prudon] nursed a grudge against Abrego and Castro to the day of his death, and his feelings were not friendly toward me; he felt that I did not think much of him since I had preferred Manuel Jimeno Casarín for Secretary of State.

Roger, doubtless there is information about Prudon in Mariano G. Vallejo's "Historia de California; Recuerdos históricos y personales tocante a la California, 1769-1848" [5 manuscript volumes in the Bancroft Library, call number C-D 17-21, and typed translation of the 5 volumes]. And perhaps Prudon is mentioned in M. G. Vallejo's "Documentos para la historia de California" [36 manuscript volumes in the Bancroft Library]. There is an index to the 36 vols.: Doris Marion Wright, A Guide to the Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo Documentos para la historia de California, 1780-1875 (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1953), 264 pages.

If I run across other material about Prudon and other people you are interested in, I'll send you information about them.

ROBERT RYAL MILLER • HISTORIAN •

Best wishes to you for 1994.

Bob

JULIO MARIA CARRILLO, b. 20 Dec. 1824, San Diego Presidio, Calif. 32
pts: Joaquin Victor Carrillo & wife Maria Ignacia
de la Candelaria Lopez
m.1. Adelaide West, dau. of Wm. Mark West & wife
Maria Francisca Guadalupe Dolores Vasquez. I
do not know when she died or of any children
m.2. Maria Teodocia Bojorques - twide - ?
Sep. 1862, St. Vincent de Paul's Petaluma
Petaluma Argus, Wed. morning, Oct. 8. 1862
Married--In Petaluma Twp. on the 2nd inst. by
Justice Chandler, Julio Carrillo to Fredosia
Bojorques, both of Santa Rosa Twp. Sent by
Charmaine Burdell Martinelli

2nd. wife

MARIA TEODOSIA BOJORQUES - see p. 1

Children: A study of the S.F. de Solano Misn. records might clarify
FRANCISCA, b. c. 1843 (mother Adelaide West ?) The late Marjorie Carsn-
m. James A. Hill ner said a dau. of M.G. Vallejo was the
d. mother.

DOLORES (male), b. 1844
m.
d.

MARIA IGNACIA, b. 1850, bap. 20 Dec. " Misn. S.F. de Solano, Sponsors:
m. Ramon & Juana Carrillo
d.

JOSE JULIO IGNACIO, b. 1851, bap. 24 Oct. Misn. San Rafael, Sponsors:
Ojo (Henry) Howe & Maria de la Luz Bojorques
m.
d.

JOSE ANTONIO, b. 1853, bap. 7 Aug. Misn. S.F. de Solano. Padrinos: Henry
m. Howe &
d.

FRANCISCO ALBERTO, b. 1855, bap. 25 Feb. Misn. S.F. de Solano. Padrinos:
m. Joseph Fitch & wife Josepha
d. Carrillo

ELIZABETH, b. 1857 bap. ?
m.1. Hamlin. m.2. Grissom
d.

JUANA, b. 1859, bap. 7 Nov. St. Vincent de Paul's, Petaluma. Padrinos:
m. Jose Geraldo Bojorques & Juana Maria Bo-
d. jorques

FELICIDAD, b. 12 Sep. 1860, bap. ?
m.
d.

LUISA, b. 14 Sep. 1863, Tomales
m.
d.

I do not know if this list is complete.

Julio Maria Carrillo Ancestor Chart

Anza Exp.✓ 33

Name of Compiler ROGER REHM
Address 3901 LAKE ROAD #184
City, State W. SACRAMENTO, CA. 95691
Date DEC. 29, 1993

Person No. 1 on this chart is the same
person as No. _____ on chart No. _____.

Chart No. _____

4 JOAQUIN VICTOR CARRILLO

WIDOWER OF NICOLASA (Father of No. 2)
FAMIREZ

b. c. 1765

p.b. BAJA CALIF. MEXICO

m.

d.

p.d.

2 JOAQUIN VICTOR CARRILLO (II)

(Father of No. 1)

b. 1793

p.b. SAN JOSE DEL CABO, BAJA CAL.

m. 3 SEP. 1809, SAN DIEGO PRESIDIO
CHAPEL, CALIF.

d.

p.d.

5 MAGDALENA MARRON

(Mother of No. 2)

b.

p.b.

d.

p.d.

1 JULIO MARIA CARRILLO

b. 20 DEC 1824

p.b. SAN DIEGO PRESIDIO, CALIF.

m. 2 SEP. 1862 ST VINCENT DE PAUL'S, PETALUMA

d. 30 OCT. 1889

p.d. SANTA ROSA, BUR. RURAL COM. STA. ROSA, CAL.

8 JUAN FRANCISCO LOPEZ

IN SERRA'S PORTOLA
LIST

(Father of No. 3)

b. c. 1746

p.b. MISH. TODOS SANTOS, BAJA CAL.

m. 6 MAR. ? 1776 MISH. SAN GABRIEL, CAL.
7 APR. ?

d. JAN. 1800. BUR. 6TH. SAN DIEGO
PRESIDIO, CAL.

p.d.

3 MARIA IGNACIA de la CAÑDELARIA

(Mother of No. 1)

b. 31 JAN. 1793, BAP. 2 FEB. MISH. SAN DIEGO,
CAL.

p.b. SAN DIEGO PRESIDIO, CAL.

d. 28 FEB. 1849

p.d. RANCHO CABEZA DE SANTA ROSA ?
BUR. UNDER FORT. MISH. 5TH. SOLANO,
SONOMA, CAL.

7 MARIA FELICIANA ARBALLO

WIDOW OF JOSE GUIT. (Mother of No. 3)
ERREZ

b.

p.b. LA VILLA DE CULIACAN, MEXICO.

d.

p.d. SAN DIEGO ? CAL.

[1ST. WIFE WAS ADELAIDE WEST]

MARIA TEODOCIA BOJORQUES

(Spouse of No. 1)

b.

p.b.

d.

p.d.

8 HILARIO CARRILLO

(Father of No. 4)

b.

p.b. LORETO MISH. PRESIDIO, BAJA CALIF.

m.

d.

p.d.

9 MARIA ANTONIA JOSEFA PASO

(Mother of No. 4)

b.

p.b.

d.

p.d.

10 _____

(Father of No. 5)

b.

p.b.

m.

d.

p.d.

11

b.

p.b.

d.

p.d.

12 JOSE YENACIO MARIA de JESUS

(Father of No. 6)

b. c. 1728

p.b. LORETO, BAJA CALIF.

m. c. 1744 ?

d. DEC. 1781, BUR. 6TH. MISH. SAN JUAN
CAPISTRANO, CA.

p.d.

13 MARIA FACUNDA de MORA

(Mother of No. 6)

b. c. 1725

p.b. SANTIAGO de las CARAS, BAJA CAL.

d. BEFORE 1799

p.d. BAJA CALIF.

14

(Father of No. 7)

b.

p.b.

m.

d.

p.d.

15

(Mother of No. 7)

b.

p.b.

d.

p.d.

16 JUAN CARRILLO

(Father of No. 8,
Cont. on chart No. _____)

m.

RATTLESNAKE BITE

d. 4 MAY 1748, LORETO, BAJA CAL.

17 LUCIA EFIGENIA MILLAR

(Mother of No. 8,
Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.

d.

18

b.

m.

d.

19

b.

d.

20

b.

m.

d.

21

b.

d.

22

b.

m.

d.

23

b.

d.

24

ANDRES LOPEZ

b.

m.

d.

25

ROSA SOTO

(Mother of No. 12,
Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.

d.

26

b.

m.

d.

27

b.

d.

28

b.

m.

d.

29

b.

d.

30

b.

m.

d.

31

b.

d.

(Mother of No. 15,
Cont. on chart No. _____)

#2 from H.H. Bancroft, Pio. Reg. & Index. Carrillo, Joaquin. Nat. of Lower Cal., for 22 years a soldier, part of the time at San Diego, where having retired from the service, he lived with his family in '27. He was probably a cousin of Jose Raimundo, but I find no information about his parentage. It is related he played well on the violin, and was once put in the stocks by Com. Ruiz because he was too long tuning his instrument for a favorite air. The romantic marriage of his dau. to Capt Fitch in '27 is recorded in III. 140-1, marriage of another dau. to M. G. Vallejo in III. 472. In '35 he tried to get a grant of S. Diego Mission estate; and the same year his wife called upon the Governor to prevent his sale of the garden given to their children by Com. Ruiz their godfather. II. 617. I suppose he died before '40.

#3 His widow was Maria Ignacia Lopez, who in '41 was grantee of the Cabeza de Santa Rosa ranch in Sonoma Co. III. 673; and for whom was built about this time the 1st house in the Santa Rosa region. Among the sons were Joaquin (grantee of Llano de Sta. Rosa), Julio, and Jose Ramon. Daughters, Josefa, wife of Hen. D. Fitch (grantee of Sotoyome) Francisca Benicia wife of M. G. Vallejo (grantee of Petaluma), Maria de la Luz, wife of Salvador Vallejo (grantee of 4 grants in Napa Co.), Ramona wife of Romualdo Pacheco (whose son became Gov. of Calif.) and later of John Wilson (grantee of Guilicos), Juana, and Felicidad who was a claimant of part of the Sta. Rosa estate and wife of Victor Castro (of Rancho San Pablo in Contra Costa Co.) Note: another dau. Marta m. her cousin Joaquin Carrillo from Baja Calif.

From: Ranchos of Calif. by Robt. G. Cowan. Cabeza de Santa Rosa. Sonoma Co. at Santa Rosa. Granted to Maria Ignacia Lopez in 1841. Julio Carrillo claimed 4,500 acres, patented July 16, 1866. F. Carrillo de Castro claimed 336 acres, patented, Aug. 25, 1881. Jas. Eldridge claimed 1668 acres, patented, Jan. 5, 1880. John Hedley claimed 640 acres, patented Dec. 9, 1879. Juana de J. Mallagh claimed 256 acres patented Dec. 11, 1879. J.R. Meyer et al. claimed 1485 acres, patented Apr. 9, 1879. (Juana was another dau.)

Note: A room of one of two Carrillo adobes is used as the office of a golf course between Old Town San Diego and Presidio Hill where the family had lived. The old town property was deeded by Comandante in 1827 when Joaquin Carrillo retired and the adobe is thought to date from this time. The ruins of the Rancho Cabeza de Santa Rosa adobe in Santa Rosa date from about 1839. A shelter has been built over it. A wing of the adobe collapsed in the winter rains of 1944 and were bulldozed into the creek. Mrs. Lawrence Wilber Carrillo Sr. had told me that Senora Carrillo had been raped by Cowie and Fowler of the Bear Flaggers. The Gay Le Baron column of Feb. 14, 1988 and the Dogtown Territorial of Summer 1993, #14 have the same information adding that her son Ramon Carrillo's wife was also raped and murdered by Cowie and Fowler. Mrs. Carrillo fled into the tules by Tomales Bay and caught a cold that eventually led to her death a few years later. She is buried under the font in the chapel built by her son in law M.G. Vallejo at the Misn. S.F. de Solano in Sonoma. Cowie and Fowler were captured by Juan N. Padilla's defensores and tied to a tree in Chanate Valley, Santa Rosa, where there is now a hospital. They were evidently killed by 3 finger Garcia who may have been the same as Bernadimo Garcia who married Juan Reed's widow Hilaria Carlotta Sanchez although Reed descendants used to deny this

#8 Juan Francisco Lopez. He is in Fr. Serra's Portola list for the exp. of 1769. If he came then he must have returned to Mexico for he comes again to Alta Calif. with the de Anza exp. of 1775-6. Soldier of the guard at Misn. Santa Barbara, 1 Nov. 1772. Had 7 children

Julio Maria Carrillo had been majordomo for his brother in law Juan Wilson the grantee of Rancho Los Guilicos named after Indians. Wilson had married Maria Ramona de la Luz Carrillo the widow of Romualdo Pacheco I. J.N. Bowman in his adobe ms. on Guilicos wrote "J.B.R. Cooper in the same land case in 1861 testified that "The first house I saw on Guilicos Ranch was the adobe house I spoke of when I passed there in the fall of 1848 I think it was being built by some Germans" William Burns in 1853 testified in the same case that Julio Carrillo was the Wilson Mayordomo who built the adobe house in which Hood was then living. Bowman discusses an unknown palizada site and two adobe sites. The one of 1848 stood near the large house built by William Hood. This building and its grounds have had various uses. The place was built in 1858 and is State Historical Landmark 692 on the Sonoma- Santa Rosa Highway. Another adobe had been built in the early 1840's and stood 200 or 300 feet from the north side of Adobe Canyon Road near the entrance to the canyon. In the spring of 1971 it had either collapsed or been pushed over and is now a low mound. There is a photo of this adobe in Kenwood Yesterday and Today by Dallyce R. Sand, 1988, p. 75.

A clipping in Pioneer Letters in the Calif. Room of the State Library says Julio Carrillo was given 4,500 acres of his mother's rancho Cabeza de Santa Rosa. He gave 70 acres for the town of Santa Rosa. He seems to have intended a plaza but the city hall was built on the site and when later impoverished he was given a job as a janitor in building. He had been partners with James J. Smalley in a livery stable (Bojorques Part 3, p. 31, 32). One of the old books on Sonoma Co. relates how when going through an initiation he was blindfolded and thought he was being branded. The clipping referred to has a card attached with the statement "The widow was a Bojorques and lived at the Presidio (S.F.) in early days and owned lots there." Timothy Talamantes said in the late 1960's that the Bojorques owned eighty acres there.

Ranchos of Calif. by Robt. G. Cowan. Guilicos. Sonoma Co. at Kenwood. 4 leagues were granted in 1837 to John Wilson, who was claimant for 18, 834 acres, patented June 16, 1866.

The Sonoma Democrat on June 4, 1864, published a letter attributed to Julio Carrillo. It was printed again in the Marin Co. History, p. 75-6. It sounds like it was prepared by a lawyer or someone else. "But I wish more particularly to call attention to an old charge, which I presume owes its revival to the same source, to wit: that my brother, Ramon Carrillo, was connected with the murder of two Americans; who had been taken prisoners by a company commanded by Juan Padilla in 1846.

I presume this charge first originated from the fact that my brother had been active in raising the company which was commanded by Padilla, and from the further fact that the murder occurred near the Santa Rosa farm then occupied by my mother's family.

"Notwithstanding these appearances, I have proof which is incontestible, that my brother was not connected with this affair, and was not even aware that these men had been taken prisoners until after they had been killed. The act was disapproved of by all the native Californians at the time, excepting those implicated in the killing, and caused a difference which was never entirely healed.

There are, as I believe, many Americans now living in this vicinity, who were here at the time, and who know the facts I have mentioned. I am ready to furnish proof of what I have said to any who may desire it."

There follows an account of the Bear Flag Revolt. See my talk for Los Californianos, April 23-24, 1994, meeting in Sacramento. Ramon Carrillo was shot in the back at Cucamonga in May of 1864 by an unknown assailant

The Sonoma Co. Courthouse was ruined in the 1906 earthquake and in the 1970's the plaza Julio Maria Carrillo intended was finally built.

Marriage Licence

Sent by Charmaine Burdell Martin-elli

272 Marriage License

In pursuance of the provisions of an act of the Legislature of the State of California, approved April 7th, 1862, Entitled "An Act to Ammend an Act regulating Marriages;" passed April 22, 1850, and the provisions of the Act so amended, I Wm. L. Anderson County Clerk of Sonoma County, do hereby certify and declare that application having been made to me by Julio Carrillo and Tiodosia Bojorques for a

Licence to Marry

I have examined said parties, under oath, together with such other witnesses as for that purpose have been produced before me, and from such examination I am satisfied, and do certify and declare: That the said Juli Carrillo is an adult now resident at Sonoma County and of the age of 37 years and that said Tiodocia Bojorques is an adult now resident at Sonoma County and of the age of 38 years.

Wherefore, I, the Said County Clerk, by virtue of the power and authority on me Conferred by the acts of Legislature aforesaid do hereby authorize any judge, justice of the peace, Clergyman or preacher of the Gospel, to to Celebrate and Certify a Marriage between the parties aforesaid

In witness whereof, I have hereunto let my hand and official seal, at Santa Rosa in the County of Sonoma on the 30 day of September in the year of our Lord One Thousand, Eight Hundred and Sixty Two

Wm L. Anderson County Clerk
of Sonoma County

State of California
Sonoma County

Be it remembered - That in the Township of Petaluma in said Sonoma County on the second day of October A.D. 1862 Julio Carrillo and Teodocia Bojorques both of the township of Santa Rosa in said Sonoma County-were by me joined in the bonds of matrimony licence therefore, under the hand & seal of the Clerk of said County being to me presented previously to the act

In witness whereof I hereunto let my hand the day & year above written Josiah Chandler Justice of the Peace of Sonoma County. The above is a true transcript from the original records

J. Chandler Just. of the Peace

Filed for Records at reg: of Julio Carrillo October 6, 1862 at 11 O'Clock & 10 min: A.M. Thomas H (?) Pgatt Recorder Sojoma and Recorded Oct. 7th 1862 at 3: o'clock & 30 min: p.m. Thos. H. Pgatt Recorder Sonoma Co
? Wm ? Bonds, sep Recorder

Sent by Charmaine^e Burdell Martin-elli

The Courier, Petaluma 11-6-1889

Death of Julio Carrillo

Julio Carrillo, a Mexican whose mother was the original grantee & founder of Santa Rosa, died of asthma Tuesday at the age of 63 yrs. Carrillo was born in S. Diego in 1826, His mother, with a large family of children, moved to Sonoma County in 1836 & located on the Cabeza de Santa Rosa. Senor Carrillo was taken prisoner June 14, 1846, by the Bear Flag Party with Gen Vallejo, who was married to one of his sisters. and imprisoned at Sacramento. Carrillo let his property slip from his fingers and died a poor man. The present site of the new Courthouse was given by him to the County. He was a Charter member of the Masonic Order & of the fire company, & an honorary member of the Native sons.

It is decided by unanimous vote of representatives from all parts of the county to provide a place for Mrs. Julio Carrillo in which she will have no care or responsibility, & in which she will always be amply provided for.

In his adobe ms. Sonoma p. 160, J.N. Bowman says Julio Carrillo was in Sonoma in 1838 and had an adobe probably of the late 1840's facing the plaza. It was at one time occupied by a Berreyessa, custodian of the pueblo archives. p. 225.

Prisoners at Sutter's Fort

Events Leading Up To Their Imprisonment And The Aftermath

by

Roger Rehm

When first occupied by the Spanish, coastal California from San Diego to the San Francisco Bay Area, there was some apprehension that despite its geographical isolation some foreign power, Russian, France or England, might covet the area north of New Spain-Mexico. New Albion to the English after Sir Francis Drake's visit in 1579. In the late 18th century there were French, Jean Francois de Galaup count de la Perouse in 1786 and then the British under Sir George Vancouver, first in 1792 who represented his country in the territorial dispute at Nootka with Spain whose representative was Francisco de la Bodega y Quadra after whom Bodega Bay is named. Spain gave up its far north territorial ambitions but Quadra island near Vancouver British Columbia was named for Bodega by Vancouver. In the early 1800's the Russians began to come and found Forts Ross, Kuskov (nr. Bodega the town) with warehouses at Bodega harbor and farms along the Estero Americano and they were discovered in Jan. 1831 at Two Rock Valley by Padre Amoros and left after he reported it. This at first seemed to overshadow the British and French. However the Russians were interested in furs not land and left when few furs could later be found.

No thought was probably given in Spanish California

to the thirteen colonies on the east coast that after becoming the United States would promote manifest destiny to the west coast, becoming a transcontinental power in a little less than seventy five years.

The Bear Flag takeover at Sonoma was at first peaceful. Other Americans who had come by sea beginning with John Gilroy, were used to different cultures and countries and had usually married and settled down. But the trappers and pioneers who came overland were very different. They were more parochial and jingoistic than the New England merchants and seamen who preceded them. They were of a more southern and mid-western background usually and instead of marrying were more apt to congregate around whisky stills in the Santa Cruz Mts. There were exceptions. By 1846, Sonoma a mission changed to a pueblo, could offer no resistance. Its Commander, Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo had discharged the garrison not receiving pay or supplies from Mexico of which California was nominally a part. His nephew, Juan Bautista Alvarado when Governor had started to make Alta California a separate nation from Mexico. Vallejo had once had uniforms for his troops from cloth he got from the Russians at Ft. Ross and who had also supplied religious artifacts for the Mission San Francisco de Solano. These were gratefully accepted despite being Eastern Orthodox in provenance and not Catholic. No religious bigotry here at least.

The Bear Flaggers may have been influenced with Capt. Fremont's difficulties with General Castro. They surprised Sonoma and took M.G. Vallejo and his brother Salvador Vallejo prisoner along with Victor Prudon, a Frenchman and then interpreter Jacob Primer Leese despite his being an American. There were negotiations - no resistance and no plundering by the Bear Flaggers. These agreements were to fail. The actual Bear Flag had been credited to three persons that I know of. Nancy Kelsey, William L. Todd, a nephew of Abraham Lincoln's wife and Peter Storm from Norway. The prisoners were sent to Sutter's Fort. On the way they and their captors camped out at the Vaca-Pena ranch. Vacaville is named after Manuel Vaca from New Mexico. That night Cayetano Juarez and Juan Nepomuceno Padilla

leading a rescue party came into the camp and the captives were supposed to have been told of their coming by a soldier disguised as an old woman at Vaca's home. M.G. Vallejo refused the offer because he thought it would lead to more trouble and he seems to have had undue confidence in Fremont's good will. Thirty men were in the rescue party who left and the Bear Flaggers consisting of Merritt, Semple, Grigsby, Night and four or five others slept on not knowing how close they had come to being the captives. The next night they were at Harvey's ranch. At Fremont's camp on the American River the captives were told that they were including Leese who had advised against their liberation at Vaca's rancho, were going to Sutter's Fort. Fremont, playing it safe claimed they were the prisoners of the Bear Flaggers and not his. Sutter was no friend of M.G. Vallejo because his establishment attracted foreigners not always welcome in California. Sutter probably did not want to be involved in these events. The prisoners were put in an unfurnished room without blankets and not fed. No food was given to them until 11 a.m. the next day. No spoons or dishes were provided for the kettle of meat soup brought by an Indian. John Sutter was considered too accommodating to the prisoners and Fremont threatened to have him hung on an oak tree if any prisoner escaped. John Bidwell whose later mansion became a State Historic property and museum in Chico was being instructed in Spanish by Victor Prudon but E.M. Kern after whom the county and several places were named brought Fremont's orders that no fraternizing was allowed. The Vallejo's brother in law Julio Maria Carrillo came under a flag of truce with a passport and letters but was also imprisoned. He was to become the second husband of Maria Teodocia Bojorques after she divorced Victor Prudon. Two other prisoners brought in were Vicente Peralta and Jose Noriega. There is a Noriega St. in San Francisco and a Peralta Hospital in Oakland. M.G. Vallejo had sent from Sonoma a letter to Captain Montgomery who had sent Lt. Misroon to Sonoma to say the prisoners were not in danger. Misroon had evidently sent Julio Carrillo to Sutter's Fort. Fremont seeing all was peaceful at Sonoma went there with ninety men to take over from William B. Ide who long protested the injustice of it all. A small adobe owned by the State of Calif. may have some connection with Ide. Commodore Sloat had taken over Monterey and Montgomery Yerba Buena, now downtown San Francisco. Lt. Joseph Warren Revere raised the U.S. flag at Sonoma, he was a descendant of Paul Revere.

Fremont went to Monterey. Sloat resigned because of poor health and turned his command over to Commodore Stockton. Sloat thought Fremont had gone too far. Commodore Stockton informed about the prisoners at Sutter's Fort by Montgomery and U.S. Consul Thomas Oliver Larkin sent John Murphy from Monterey to Yerba Buena with orders from himself and Sloat. Stockton not knowing of all the prisoners had ordered the release of M.G. Vallejo and his brother in law. Vallejo and Julio Carrillo were released. Murphys in Calaveras County is named for John Murphy. Vallejo and Carrillo were escorted back to Sonoma. The other prisoners waited for at least a week before being released.

So far all had been peaceful in the American conquest but this was to change. Two Bear Flaggers Thomas Cowie and George Fowler had been sent from Sonoma to Henry Delano Fitch's Rancho Sotoyome occupied by Cyrus Alexander to get gun powder. Fitch's wife was a sister of Julio Carrillo and the Vallejo's wives. Cowie and Fowler had been warned to stay off the main road but had stopped at Rancho Cabeza de Santa Rosa of Maria Ignacia Lopez de Carrillo who was the mother of the Carrillos in the area. They raped and killed Ramon Carrillo's wife from Mexico and I was told by the late Mrs. L.W. Carrillo they also raped his mother. She rode and hid in the tules by Tomales Bay and caught a cold that eventually led to her death. None of this is so far in the history books but in a Gaye Le Baron column in a Santa Rosa newspaper of Feb. 14, 1988 this information about Ramon Carrillo's wife being killed by Cowie and Fowler was published and again in the Dogtown Territorial of Summer 1993 which

information was from Glenn Burch of the Sonoma State Park.

Juan N. Padilla (the same who had with Cayetano Juarez offered to free the Bear Flager's prisoners on the way to Sutter's Fort) and Ramon Carrillo led a posse that captured Cowie and Fowler. M.G. Vallejo in Bancroft's History said that Three Finger Jack Bernadino Garcia (who may have been the same who was the second husband of Hilaria Sanchez widow of John Reed and grantee of Rancho Tamalpais or San Clemente) killed Cowie and Fowler while they were tied to trees while the others were inside. This happened at Chanate Valley where a hospital now stands in Santa Rosa. Julio Carrillo later denied his brother Ramon had anything to do it. Another account says Ramon Carrillo who himself said he delivered Cowie and Fowler to Juan Padilla who had them shot against his advice. A Mariano Elizalde had a bullet shot through his hat while pursued by Bear Flaggers. When other Bear Flaggers discovered the bodies of the missing Cowie and Fowler they were led by Henry L. Ford to capture Juan Padilla and his men who in Bancroft are listed as Domingo Mesa, Ramon Mesa, Bernadino Garcia, and evidently Blas Angelino, Francisco Tibien (Cibrian?), Ignacio Valenzuela, Juan Peralta, Juan Soletto (Sotelo?), Inagun (Joaquin?) Carrillo, Mariano Miranda, Francisco Garcia, Ignacio Stiggere (probably Jose Ygnaci Teodoro Higuera the second husband of my ancestor Juana Maria Bojorques).

Except for some names being garbled in spelling they are nearly all identifiable as rancheros and vaqueros of the Marin-Sonoma region. Ramon Mesa was grantee of SoulaJule in norther^u Marin and Joaquin Carrillo of Llano de Santa Rosa in Sonoma Co.

Henry L. Ford led fifteen men to Padilla's Roblar de la Miseria Ranch a little north of Petaluma after not finding Padilla and his men at Rancho Cabeza de Santa Rosa. Either here or at Padilla's other rancho, Bolsa de Tomales, several miles west of Petaluma, two boys and two or three Indians employed by Padilla were threatened and said Padilla and his men had left three hours or so to go to the Rancho Laguna de San Antonio. Ford's men ate some beef and guided by one of the boys they came to and rested under some trees about 2 a.m. about a mile from the lagoon. The Laguna de San Antonio Rancho was granted to my ancestor Don Bartolome Francisco Bojorques and the lake bed is usually dry except after rain. The Laguna lake to the west in Chileno Valley usually does have water. At daylight Ford and his men charged the village in two seven men parties, one led by Granville P. Swift. Swift was the builder of Temelec Hall at Sonoma and a stone mansion in Green Valley Solano Co. The other seven were led by Ford. Padilla and his men had left. Four prisoners not named in Ford's letter to Samuel Brannan, were taken. Interrogation provided the information that Padilla and his men were at Olompali a few miles to the south - east. At Olompali Padilla and his men and about fifty others led by Joaquin de la Torre were surprised at breakfast. According to Ford his opponents, about eighty five men mounted their horses and formed a square about eighty yards away and intended to surround his men who were in two ranks on foot. The first rank fired and while reloading the second fired. The first volley was the most effective. Manuel Cantua was killed and Agaton Ruiz wounded. Ford says there was a lot of confusion and empty saddles among their enemies and three wounded men, one killed and three wounded horses. The two prisoners held by the Californios under Padilla escaped and their former captors retreated to a high hill about four hundred yards away. A few shots from the Bear Flaggers wounded a few more horses. The Californios under Padilla tried to rally but more shots caused them to retreat. Ford says they left three hundred and fifty horses. The combined forces of Padilla and de la Torre retreated to Sausalito where Capt. William Anthony Richardson let them cross the bay in his schooner to the Contra Costa. The Californios were not as well armed with guns as the Bear Flaggers and relied on lances which could be effective as were their lassoes if they could get close enough. The Bear Flaggers retreated back to Sonoma.

Fremont arrived with his men at San Rafael in pursuit of the Californios and charged only to be met by a swarm of grasshoppers. On June 28, Jose de los Reyes Berreyessa landed with the de Haro twins who were related to his wife. He wanted to visit his son who was alcalde at Sonoma and now a prisoner there. Stephen Richardson an eyewitness and son of Wm. A. Richardson grantee of Rancho Sausalito, said Fremont told Kit Carson to take charge and that he had no room for prisoners. The de Haro twins were shot down and Don Berreyessa wailing their murder said he ought to be shot as well and he was. Jaspar O' Farrell was another witness. The victims clothes were taken and the bodies not removed till dark when sympathetic bystanders took them away.

Padilla and de la Torre took no further part in hostilities.

2008-507-11